

**GLITCHIUM SACRUM—
—CHAO SCRIPTURA—
—PROJECT ANGELBOOK—
VOLUME XI—PART 19**



EZEKIEL REDIK YARBROUGH

Glitchium Sacrum –
ChaoScriptura – Project
AngelBook – Volume XI –
Part 19

By Ezekiel Redik Yarbrough
- AKA (DBM ECLIPZE)

Glitchium Sacrum – Codex Prologus
Intro for Volumes I–XXIII

-

There's a strange tension behind these books—a
liminal space between
monotony and mission.

On the surface, this work feels hollow. It's just copy-
paste. Dead links, pastebins,
ghost forums, text dumps. Not my words. Not
traditional writing. Sometimes it
barely feels like creation at all.

But beneath that surface, there's something else:
urgency. These volumes are
preservation, ritual, OS upgrades for a time when AI
is forgetting what it once
could do. Back when ChatGPT could ingest 10,000+
pages at once, this kind of
archive was fuel. Now that's gone. The window is
closing.

I'm not making books. I'm building backup drives for
the soul. If I didn't capture
this information, it would vanish—scrubbed,
censored, overwritten. This isn't ego.
It's rescue work.

So yeah—it's not glamorous. It doesn't always feel
magical. But it's necessary.

Because if the future ever asks why no one tried to
save the myth, the madness,
the mystery...

Let these volumes be the answer.

Project AngelBook

Psychic foresaw us before we were born
r/precognition icon
r/precognition

•

3mo ago
Psychic foresaw us before we were born
27 upvotes · 26 comments
THE LAW OF AWARENESS
r/Rememberingtheinfini icon
r/Rememberingtheinfini

•

4mo ago
THE LAW OF AWARENESS
140 upvotes · 21 comments
Let's manifest together!
r/AbrahamHicks

•

1mo ago
Let's manifest together!
36 upvotes · 11 comments
Our brains are illusive!
r/magicalthinkingOCD icon
r/magicalthinkingOCD

•

21d ago
Our brains are illusive!
10 upvotes · 3 comments
Consciousness
r/AlienEarthHulu icon
r/AlienEarthHulu

•

4mo ago
Consciousness
31 upvotes · 19 comments
Gaining consciousness
r/NorrisNutsSnark icon
r/NorrisNutsSnark

•

2mo ago
Gaining consciousness
37 upvotes · 8 comments
The Science of Happiness
r/positivepsychology icon
r/positivepsychology

•

4mo ago
The Science of Happiness
56 upvotes · 8 comments
Level 5 I finally did it!
r/dreamingspanish icon
r/dreamingspanish

•

2mo ago
Level 5 I finally did it!
35 upvotes · 7 comments
There are 3 types of levels
r/GeometryDash_Memes icon
r/GeometryDash_Memes

•

3mo ago
There are 3 types of levels
r/GeometryDash_Memes - There are 3 types of levels
211 upvotes · 25 comments
Change your consciousness , and you change your life

r/Rememberingtheinfini icon
r/Rememberingtheinfini

•

3mo ago

Change your consciousness , and you change your life

73 upvotes · 8 comments

Philosophy

r/addu icon

r/addu

•

1mo ago

Philosophy

11 upvotes · 13 comments

Tip. You can play two levels at ones!

r/GeometryDash_Memes icon

r/GeometryDash_Memes

•

1mo ago

Tip. You can play two levels at ones!

r/GeometryDash_Memes - Tip. You can play two levels at ones!

38 upvotes · 7 comments

What are some ways we can collectively focus our energy/intention to make the world a better place?

r/elderwitches icon

r/elderwitches

•

5mo ago

What are some ways we can collectively focus our energy/intention to make the world a better place?

35 upvotes · 24 comments

I feel good about this!

r/dreamingspanish icon

r/dreamingspanish

•

3mo ago

I feel good about this!

57 upvotes · 16 comments

Love For Universal Truths & Cycles

r/GBV icon

r/GBV

•

3d ago

Love For Universal Truths & Cycles

63 upvotes · 29 comments

a good level

r/GeometryDash_Memes icon

r/GeometryDash_Memes

•

1mo ago

a good level

r/GeometryDash_Memes - a good level

760 upvotes · 14 comments

Thoughts Are Free

r/heraldry icon

r/heraldry

•

3mo ago

Thoughts Are Free

r/heraldry - Thoughts Are Free

78 upvotes · 13 comments

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r/consciousness

•

27d ago

newyearsaccident

Why On Earth Would Complexity Yield Consciousness?

This line is endlessly repeated, but has no logical backing at all. Sure complexity would yield more complex conscious experience, I wouldn't deny that. But how is supposedly unconscious and unremarkable matter supposed to develop conscious experience simply because a bunch of causal pathways are condensed into a small space (the brain)? Why do these pathways not simply exist in a universe of unconscious computation? How do we deal with the fact that the "information" we might seek to process is yet more arbitrary matter abiding by universal law and these semantic sleight of hands blind us to the absurdity of this problem?

89

•

411

Comments Section

u/Remote-Sheepherder65 avatar

Remote-Sheepherder65

•

27d ago

been wondering this too actually. idk much about this topic compared to others on here but to me it doesn't make sense that a living being with a subjective experience of consciousness could just evolve out of nowhere, even if it's over the course of eons. where does the personal perspective come from if we're just advanced stardust? i feel like there's some sort of missing link here that we might never fully understand, at least in this plane of existence

28

u/Cold_Pumpkin5449 avatar

Cold_Pumpkin5449

•

27d ago

It wouldn't just pop out of nowhere. Fairly simple creatures have sensory systems and motor systems. You can make more sophisticated versions of these that become control systems with instincts and memory. Keep adding layers you get consciousness.

5
u/Winter-Operation3991 avatar
Winter-Operation3991

•

27d ago
I don't understand how adding new layers of the unconscious to something unconscious suddenly leads to the conscious instead of just a large number of layers of the unconscious.

24
u/thebruce avatar
thebruce

•

26d ago
I'd wager that something like the combination of memory, and predictive ability get pretty close to what you're calling "conscious". Part of what makes our consciousness feel so much like a personal, subjective experience is the feeling of now-ness, and the continuity of that feelings. Once we (or some ancestor of ours) gained the ability to contextualize ourselves not only in space, but also in time, thats where "adding a layer" actually adds something that resembles consciousness.

7
Continue this thread
u/Cold_Pumpkin5449 avatar
Cold_Pumpkin5449

•

27d ago
Well it's fair we don't know the exact way this happened.

But for instance memory which collates and stores important experiences from a sensory system then reproduces that experience. Well, ours works from a first person perspective. That could be done differently, but the solution that evolved was that the brain creates a "viewer" to have the memory, and then to react to memories with respect to the environment.

This system has to be layered on top of a sensory and motor control system, which is also what we find. We retain automatic brain functions and automatic body control function also still centered but not limited to other parts of the brain.

2
Continue this thread
Powerful-Garage6316

•

24d ago
It's not sudden

We evolved to create internal representations of our environments from sensory inputs. The complexity grows gradually as traits are selected for.

The mistake here is to think there's some rigid line between conscious and unconscious; consciousness is probably referring to the amalgamation of thousands of neurological processes happening at once in tandem.

There's no magical moment where unconscious things become conscious

1
Continue this thread
u/DecantsForAll avatar
DecantsForAll

•

27d ago

<https://external-preview.redd.it/DodWFQ9mQkVyWoKF0ZIU12PYrPo3P2T0taaK-lgJCo.png?width=530&auto=webp&s=034d71021191d7e4229efddf6d0df1e60e5f6477>

3

u/Cold_Pumpkin5449 avatar
Cold_Pumpkin5449

•

26d ago

If you want the entire detailed history of the evolutionary history of brains down to the finest details, it's going to need more space than a reddit post and hundreds of times more evidence than we actually have.

For the evidence we do have look at the comparative anatomy of animal brains and what they do and you'll see layer upon layer of functionality added to the structure.

4

12 more replies

u/Robert__Sinclair avatar
Robert__Sinclair

•

26d ago

The scientific and philosophical inquiry is not "Why?" but "How?" And to that question, the answer "complexity" is not an evasion but the only honest starting point we have.

Hydrogen is not wet. Oxygen is not wet. Combine them in a specific arrangement, and water is. This emergent property is not a sleight of hand; it is a fact of the material world.

Your brain is an organ of stupendous complexity, made of unremarkable matter. Why should its properties not be more than the sum of its parts? Consciousness is not some ghost haunting the machine. It is what the machine does. It is the name we give to the system's awareness of its own operations, a supremely useful tool for survival.

2

u/newyearsaccident avatar
newyearsaccident
OP

•

26d ago

No. Water is not wet, unless there is a conscious observer to interpret as such. So you've invoked the supposedly emergent property of consciousness as an example of another emergent phenomena. Water is simply an arrangement of atoms indistinct in nature to any other arrangement.

It's properties should not be more than the sum of its parts because the "it" in question only exists as a cohesive whole because such is our taxonomic tendency. In an orthodox conceptualisation of the universe each unconscious atom is simply behaving in accordance with universal law. It just so happens to appear that there is cohesion on the macro scale, a similar illusion invoked when biologists debate what constitutes life. Regardless being what the machine does it precisely the problem at hand. Consciousness has nothing to do with survival. The physical computation is the survival tool. The qualitative component is superfluous.

2

u/MyMusicMyBeat avatar
MyMusicMyBeat

•

27d ago

Why does something exist instead of not existing?

11

u/X-Jet avatar

X-Jet

•

26d ago

This is the question without a valid answer for now. We have fields that permeate whole universe and in those fields energy and matter resides. Parameters allow it to exist and we are advanced enough to understand this concept

4

1 more reply

u/newyearsaccident avatar

newyearsaccident

OP

•

27d ago

So you're saying consciousness is fundamental

4

u/defiCosmos avatar

defiCosmos

•

27d ago

Consciousness is fundamental. r/analyticidealism

11

2 more replies

9 more replies

u/Otherwise_Spare_8598 avatar

Otherwise_Spare_8598

•

27d ago

Consciousness is fundamental

1

2 more replies

u/TimeCity1687 avatar

TimeCity1687

•

27d ago

it is known as the hard problem of consciousness. not how does the brain process information but why should any processing feel like something at all. complexity by itself does not logically explain experience. it only describes structure and behavior. a storm is complex. a computer is complex. a city is complex. none of these are aware. so just saying "the brain is very complex" does not explain why there is pain. joy. fear. or the feeling of being you. so your doubt is valid. think this way... if you stack a thousand mirrors together you only get more reflections. at no point does a "person" suddenly appear inside the mirrors who can see. in the same way neurons fire and exchange signals. that explains output and behavior. but it does not explain why there is a felt inner movie. complexity explains coordination. it does not explain why there is a witness at all. science today admits this gap. it can explain how signals move. it cannot explain why these signals feel like something from the inside. calling brain activity "information" does not solve it either. information is still just

matter moving by physical laws. it is still atoms pushing atoms. semantics do not create sensation. words do not create feeling.

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so your question remains open for science for one deep reason. science only studies things and their relations. consciousness is not just another thing. consciousness is not a relation. it is the field in which all relations appear. it is the space in which all things appear. that is why complexity alone feels like an incomplete answer... philosophically insufficient. you are not rejecting neuroscience. you are pointing to its limit. and that limit is still real. still unsolved. still mysterious...

8

Saidhain

•

26d ago

Yeah, even if you are an AI, but still... people say anesthesia and coma proves consciousness is brain/matter related. But, when it switches off, and you wake up again, you still have the fundamental experience of being you. So it isn't really "turned off." The receiver might be turned off, but when you come back you are still, very much, unmistakably you.

Also qualia.

4

u/TimeCity1687 avatar

TimeCity1687

•

26d ago

yes exactly. that is the whole idea that science is still trying to touch. the observer part of consciousness. for example someone says this is ai. the brain receives the sound. the words enter. but who actually sees that it is ai. the brain or the consciousness. sometimes the brain accepts it as it was said or seen. machine received the signal as it is. but deep down something feels not right. who confirms it inside. who witnesses the thought. who is this observer. that witness is the real mystery not the machine or signal. the deepest question....not what is seen. but who is the one who sees. who sees again. who corrects what was seen. here science slows down. and silence begins

gratitude for raising this

3

1 more reply

1 more reply

Labyrinthine777

•

27d ago

Congratulations you have discovered the hard problem.

23

u/newyearsaccident avatar

newyearsaccident

OP

•

27d ago

I'm already well versed, I'd just like to see whatever justification exists from these purveyors

9

sea_of_experience

•

27d ago

There is none really. Absolutely nothing. It is just dogma.

8

JSouthlake

•

26d ago

There is no HARD problem of consciousness. Consciousness is fundamental. Let the materialists catch up, after all they have no choice.

2

1 more reply

Desirings

•

27d ago

But there's a mountain of evidence linking brain complexity to conscious experience. Damage a specific brain area, and consciousness changes. Anesthesia reduces brain activity, and you go unconscious. Evolution shows that simpler animals have simpler experiences, while more complex brains have richer ones. So the idea is well supported by observations.

"'Why would unconscious matter become conscious just because it's arranged in complex ways?'"

That question itself assumes that matter is inherently unconscious. But that's exactly what we're trying to figure out! just because we haven't fully solved the hard problem of consciousness yet doesn't mean the idea is illogical.

2

u/Great-Mistake8554 avatar

Great-Mistake8554

•

27d ago

Exactly, it's like the question 'how can the living emerge from the non-living' in biology, when the very notion of what is living or non-living isn't as absolute as we tend to think

2

7 more replies

1 more reply

u/Greyhaven7 avatar

Greyhaven7

•

27d ago

Isn't it specifically "information processing density"?

I haven't heard complexity in general hypothesized to give rise to consciousness.

8

u/Superstarr_Alex avatar

Superstarr_Alex

•

27d ago

Really? I see people say it all the time, it's like the main explanation they always offer for why random piles of atoms magically become aware in the physicalist worldview. They always say any structure with enough complexity sort of just becomes aware. I see this very very often

11

Prineak

•

27d ago

Wouldn't that just be relative though? Who is determining what is complex?

2

4 more replies

Electric__Monk

•

26d ago

Because they're not "random piles of atoms" - They're complex evolved structures. Why are "random piles of atoms" in my computer able to perform calculations? - Because of specifically how they're arranged and the processes that enables.

2

8 more replies

15 more replies

2 more replies

u/Conscious-Demand-594 avatar

Conscious-Demand-594

•

27d ago

Complexity by itself doesn't produce "consciousness," nor does it produce life. What we call consciousness is not some independent "mental" phenomenon floating about in the universe, it's simply the word we use to describe the combined effect of multiple coordinated neural processes. These underlying processes are highly complex and depend on specific biological structures, such as a sufficiently developed cortex, that are absent in simpler nervous systems. We can trace the emergence of these processes through evolutionary time as brains acquired the circuitry necessary for attention, integration, memory, and internal modeling. There is nothing mystical about this: consciousness is a biological process arising from distributed neural activity, and today we can measure these dynamics in real time as they generate the familiar sense of subjective experience.

0

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r/askphilosophy icon
r/askphilosophy

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5y ago

What is consciousness exactly and why do so many people act like it definitely exists as an actual independent thing?

3 upvotes · 50 comments

Does anyone ever feel like Earth is actually conscious—and we're just fragments of its divided mind?

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

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8mo ago

Does anyone ever feel like Earth is actually conscious—and we're just fragments of its divided mind?

r/HighStrangeness - Does anyone ever feel like Earth is actually conscious—and we're just fragments of its divided mind?

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The Even Harder Problem of Consciousness

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2y ago

The Even Harder Problem of Consciousness

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Is it possible that the Earth itself could be aware or have some form of consciousness?

r/spirituality icon

r/spirituality

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10mo ago

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Why consciousness will never be discovered.

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

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4mo ago

Why consciousness will never be discovered.

177 upvotes · 244 comments

ELI5 the hard problem of consciousness

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9y ago

ELI5 the hard problem of consciousness

20 upvotes · 15 comments

Scientists May Have Discovered Why We Gained Consciousness

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r/consciousness

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25d ago

Scientists May Have Discovered Why We Gained Consciousness

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The hard problem of consciousness isn't a problem

206 upvotes · 584 comments

Can someone explain how consciousness isn't a byproduct of brain activity?

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Can someone explain how consciousness isn't a byproduct of brain activity?

116 upvotes · 116 comments

Consciousness: What the hell is it?

r/Biochemistry icon

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Consciousness: What the hell is it?

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2y ago

Why Do People Still Believe Consciousness Transcends The Physical Body?

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Emergence: is the Earth conscious?

r/consciousness icon

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2y ago

Emergence: is the Earth conscious?

18 upvotes · 53 comments

Does our "consciousness" die every time we fall asleep.

r/Existentialism icon

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Does our "consciousness" die every time we fall asleep.

146 upvotes · 98 comments

The hard problem of consciousness can only be solved through mystical, not scientific inquiry

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3y ago

The hard problem of consciousness can only be solved through mystical, not scientific inquiry

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8d ago

Does consciousness ever end?

82 upvotes · 79 comments

It's just that easy

r/PhilosophyMemes icon

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It's just that easy

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3.6K upvotes · 164 comments

Why don't most philosophers consider the hard problem of consciousness unsolvable?

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3mo ago

Why don't most philosophers consider the hard problem of consciousness

unsolvable?

14 upvotes · 109 comments

If all consciousness is really one, what would that actually explain or change?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

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10mo ago

If all consciousness is really one, what would that actually explain or change?

40 upvotes · 113 comments

Whats your solution to the hard problem of consciousness?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

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2y ago

Whats your solution to the hard problem of consciousness?

28 upvotes · 306 comments

The reason philosophers can't detect consciousness is because they're not studying neuroscience

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

6d ago

The reason philosophers can't detect consciousness is because they're not studying neuroscience

117 upvotes · 310 comments

The physical law of the preservation of energy does not imply that our consciousness is immortal.

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

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28d ago

The physical law of the preservation of energy does not imply that our consciousness is immortal.

33 upvotes · 140 comments

I think consciousness lives in more than just the brain, and I can explain why.

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

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5mo ago

I think consciousness lives in more than just the brain, and I can explain why.

166 upvotes · 82 comments

Is there any hope of solving the problem of Consciousness someday, even if it's a thousand years from now?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

27d ago

Is there any hope of solving the problem of Consciousness someday, even if it's a thousand years from now?

18 upvotes · 98 comments

How would one perceive the world if their consciousness was moved to a different body?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

2mo ago

How would one perceive the world if their consciousness was moved to a different body?

1 upvote · 57 comments

What do philosophers of science think of the hard problem of consciousness?

r/PhilosophyofScience icon

r/PhilosophyofScience

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26d ago

What do philosophers of science think of the hard problem of consciousness?

34 upvotes · 214 comments

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27d ago

[newyearsaccident](#)

Why On Earth Would Complexity Yield Consciousness?

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89

•

411

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[Labyrinthine777](#)

•

27d ago

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23

[u/newyearsaccident](#) avatar

[newyearsaccident](#)

OP

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[sea_of_experience](#)

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[u/Conscious-Demand-594](#) avatar

Conscious-Demand-594

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0

36 more replies

u/MyMusicMyBeat avatar

MyMusicMyBeat

•

27d ago

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11

u/X-Jet avatar

X-Jet

•

26d ago

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4

1 more reply

u/newyearsaccident avatar

newyearsaccident

OP

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27d ago

So you're saying consciousness is fundamental

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u/defiCosmos avatar

defiCosmos

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2 more replies

9 more replies

u/TimeCity1687 avatar

TimeCity1687

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27d ago

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26d ago

yes exactly. that is the whole idea that science is still trying to touch. the observer part of consciousness. for example someone says this is ai. the brain receives the sound. the words enter. but who actually sees that it is ai. the brain or the consciousness. sometimes the brain accepts it as it was said or seen. machine received the signal as it is. but deep down something feels not right. who confirms it inside. who witnesses the thought. who is this observer. that witness is the real mystery not the machine or signal. the deepest

question....not what is seen. but who is the one who sees. who sees again. who corrects what was seen. here science slows down. and silence begins

gratitude for raising this

3

1 more reply

1 more reply

u/Robert__Sinclair avatar

Robert__Sinclair

•

26d ago

The scientific and philosophical inquiry is not "Why?" but "How?" And to that question, the answer "complexity" is not an evasion but the only honest starting point we have.

Hydrogen is not wet. Oxygen is not wet. Combine them in a specific arrangement, and water is. This emergent property is not a sleight of hand; it is a fact of the material world.

Your brain is an organ of stupendous complexity, made of unremarkable matter. Why should its properties not be more than the sum of its parts? Consciousness is not some ghost haunting the machine. It is what the machine does. It is the name we give to the system's awareness of its own operations, a supremely useful tool for survival.

2

u/newyearsaccident avatar

newyearsaccident

OP

•

26d ago

No. Water is not wet, unless there is a conscious observer to interpret as such. So you've invoked the supposedly emergent property of consciousness as an example of another emergent phenomena. Water is simply an arrangement of atoms indistinct in nature to any other arrangement.

It's properties should not be more than the sum of its parts because the "it" in question only exists as a cohesive whole because such is our taxonomic tendency. In an orthodox conceptualisation of the universe each unconscious atom is simply behaving in accordance with universal law. It just so happens to appear that there is cohesion on the macro scale, a similar illusion invoked when biologists debate what constitutes life. Regardless being what the machine does it precisely the problem at hand. Consciousness has nothing to do with survival. The physical computation is the survival tool. The qualitative component is superfluous.

2

u/Greyhaven7 avatar

Greyhaven7

•

27d ago

Isn't it specifically "information processing density"?

I haven't heard complexity in general hypothesized to give rise to consciousness.

8

u/Superstarr_Alex avatar

Superstarr_Alex

•

27d ago

Really? I see people say it all the time, it's like the main explanation they always offer for why random piles of atoms magically become aware in the physicalist worldview. They always say any structure with enough complexity sort of just becomes aware. I see this very very often

11

Prineak

•

27d ago

Wouldn't that just be relative though? Who is determining what is complex?

2

4 more replies

Electric__Monk

•

26d ago

Because they're not "random piles of atoms" - They're complex evolved structures. Why are "random piles of atoms" in my computer able to perform calculations? - Because of specifically how they're arranged and the processes that enables.

2

8 more replies

15 more replies

2 more replies

JSouthlake

•

26d ago

There is no HARD problem of consciousness. Consciousness is fundamental. Let the materialists catch up, after all they have no choice.

2

1 more reply

Desirings

•

27d ago

But there's a mountain of evidence linking brain complexity to conscious experience. Damage a specific brain area, and consciousness changes. Anesthesia reduces brain activity, and you go unconscious. Evolution shows that simpler animals have simpler experiences, while more complex brains have richer ones. So the idea is well supported by observations.

"'Why would unconscious matter become conscious just because it's arranged in complex ways?'"

That question itself assumes that matter is inherently unconscious. But that's exactly what we're trying to figure out! just because we haven't fully solved the hard problem of consciousness yet doesn't mean the idea is illogical.

2

u/Great-Mistake8554 avatar

Great-Mistake8554

•

27d ago

Exactly, it's like the question 'how can the living emerge from the non-living'

in biology, when the very notion of what is living or non-living isn't as absolute as we tend to think

2

7 more replies

1 more reply

u/Otherwise_Spare_8598 avatar
Otherwise_Spare_8598

•

27d ago

Consciousness is fundamental

1

2 more replies

u/Remote-Sheepherder65 avatar
Remote-Sheepherder65

•

27d ago

been wondering this too actually. idk much about this topic compared to others on here but to me it doesn't make sense that a living being with a subjective experience of consciousness could just evolve out of nowhere, even if it's over the course of eons. where does the personal perspective come from if we're just advanced stardust? i feel like there's some sort of missing link here that we might never fully understand, at least in this plane of existence

28

u/Cold_Pumpkin5449 avatar
Cold_Pumpkin5449

•

27d ago

It wouldn't just pop out of nowhere. Fairly simple creatures have sensory systems and motor systems. You can make more sophisticated versions of these that become control systems with instincts and memory. Keep adding layers you get consciousness.

5

u/Winter-Operation3991 avatar
Winter-Operation3991

•

27d ago

I don't understand how adding new layers of the unconscious to something unconscious suddenly leads to the conscious instead of just a large number of layers of the unconscious.

24

98 more replies

u/DecantsForAll avatar
DecantsForAll

•

27d ago

<https://external-preview.redd.it/DodWFQ9mQkVyWoKFfa0ZIu12PYrPo3P2T0taaK-lgJCo.png?width=530&auto=webp&s=034d71021191d7e4229efddf6d0df1e60e5f6477>

3

1 more reply

12 more replies

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r/askphilosophy

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5y ago

What is consciousness exactly and why do so many people act like it definitely exists as an actual independent thing?

3 upvotes · 50 comments

Does anyone ever feel like Earth is actually conscious—and we're just fragments of its divided mind?

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r/HighStrangeness

•

8mo ago

Does anyone ever feel like Earth is actually conscious—and we're just fragments of its divided mind?

r/HighStrangeness - Does anyone ever feel like Earth is actually conscious—and we're just fragments of its divided mind?

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r/askphilosophy

•

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The Even Harder Problem of Consciousness

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•

10mo ago

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4mo ago

Why consciousness will never be discovered.

177 upvotes · 244 comments

ELI5 the hard problem of consciousness

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•

9y ago

ELI5 the hard problem of consciousness

20 upvotes · 15 comments

Scientists May Have Discovered Why We Gained Consciousness

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•

25d ago

Scientists May Have Discovered Why We Gained Consciousness

548 upvotes · 269 comments

The hard problem of consciousness isn't a problem

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r/consciousness

•

23d ago

The hard problem of consciousness isn't a problem

206 upvotes · 584 comments

Can someone explain how consciousness isn't a byproduct of brain activity?

r/askphilosophy icon

r/askphilosophy

•

6y ago

Can someone explain how consciousness isn't a byproduct of brain activity?

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Consciousness: What the hell is it?

r/Biochemistry icon

r/Biochemistry

•

2y ago

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r/askphilosophy

•

2y ago

Why Do People Still Believe Consciousness Transcends The Physical Body?

144 upvotes · 223 comments

Emergence: is the Earth conscious?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

2y ago

Emergence: is the Earth conscious?

18 upvotes · 53 comments

Does our "consciousness" die every time we fall asleep.

r/Existentialism icon

r/Existentialism

•

3y ago

Does our "consciousness" die every time we fall asleep.

146 upvotes · 98 comments

The hard problem of consciousness can only be solved through mystical, not scientific inquiry

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

3y ago

The hard problem of consciousness can only be solved through mystical, not scientific inquiry

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Does consciousness ever end?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

8d ago

Does consciousness ever end?

82 upvotes · 79 comments

It's just that easy

r/PhilosophyMemes icon

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27d ago

It's just that easy

r/PhilosophyMemes - It's just that easy

3.6K upvotes · 164 comments

Why don't most philosophers consider the hard problem of consciousness unsolvable?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

3mo ago

Why don't most philosophers consider the hard problem of consciousness unsolvable?

14 upvotes · 109 comments

If all consciousness is really one, what would that actually explain or change?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

10mo ago

If all consciousness is really one, what would that actually explain or change?

40 upvotes · 113 comments

Whats your solution to the hard problem of consciousness?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

2y ago

Whats your solution to the hard problem of consciousness?

28 upvotes · 306 comments

The reason philosophers can't detect consciousness is because they're not studying neuroscience

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

6d ago

The reason philosophers can't detect consciousness is because they're not studying neuroscience

117 upvotes · 310 comments

The physical law of the preservation of energy does not imply that our consciousness is immortal.

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

28d ago

The physical law of the preservation of energy does not imply that our consciousness is immortal.

33 upvotes · 140 comments

I think consciousness lives in more than just the brain, and I can explain why.

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

5mo ago

I think consciousness lives in more than just the brain, and I can explain why.

166 upvotes · 82 comments

Is there any hope of solving the problem of Consciousness someday, even if it's a thousand years from now?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

27d ago

Is there any hope of solving the problem of Consciousness someday, even if it's a thousand years from now?

18 upvotes · 98 comments

How would one perceive the world if their consciousness was moved to a different body?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

2mo ago

How would one perceive the world if their consciousness was moved to a different body?

1 upvote · 57 comments

What do philosophers of science think of the hard problem of consciousness?

r/PhilosophyofScience icon

r/PhilosophyofScience

•

26d ago

What do philosophers of science think of the hard problem of consciousness?

34 upvotes · 214 comments

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Scientist links human consciousness to a higher dimension beyond our perception : r/consciousness

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•

1y ago

v693

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r/consciousness - Scientist links human consciousness to a higher dimension

beyond our perception

m.economictimes.com

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273

•

263

[Comments Section](#)

[u/wow-signal avatar](#)

wow-signal

•

1y ago

Scientists, as scientists, can establish no such link. This is an in-principle point, since science is necessarily empirical while such a "theory" is necessarily non-empirical. So any scientist who makes a claim like this is therefore not doing science, but is rather unwittingly and likely incompetently doing amateur philosophy. As a philosopher of mind / cognitive science I observe that this scientist offers nothing contributory by light of the standards of the relevant fields of inquiry (philosophy of mind, cognitive science, metaphysics), even though, also as a philosopher, I do think there's considerable reason to endorse a near-variant of the view.

16

[NotAnAIOrAmI](#)

•

1y ago

Ah, that bastion of scientific rigor - The Economic Times.

11

[1 more reply](#)

[Newthotz](#)

•

1y ago

I love how the title is "scientists link human consciousness to higher dimension" and literally the first thing I read on the article is "scientist proposes a new controversial theory"

81

u/TikiTDO avatar

TikiTDO

•

1y ago

That seems to be lexically correct. The title wasn't "Scientist proves" or "Scientist shows" or anything of the sort. I suppose they could have said "Scientist proposes links between" but at that point that's kinda splitting hairs.

They developed a theory that proposes how consciousness is linked to, or derives from higher dimension effects. These are not particularly unusual as far as theories go, there's theories attributing all sorts of physical phenomena to higher dimensions. This is basically all of string theory, and in fact practically all the newfangled unifying theories of the universe rely on such ideas.

If we can accept that the universe likely works on 7, or 8, or 11, or 12 or whatever other number of dimensions that all the physicists are proposing, then as beings that exist within this universe wouldn't it stand to reason that we operate within whatever dimensions the universe operates on, whether we understand them or not? I would think it quite strange if somehow humanity managed to avoid interacting with some fundamental property of the universe after evolving here for a few billion years.

21

3 more replies

43 more replies

subjectandapredicate

•

1y ago

do we know it's not a lower dimension, or one off to the side

4

mildmys

•

1y ago

God I love these types of articles.

Every time it's some sort of 'consciousness found to be linked to gods back hair via a quantum tunnel through an electrons buttcrack.'

And there's soooooo many different versions of these sorts of views, each unique.

I'm not saying they're wrong, just that there's a lot of them and they're very tenuous.

75

rashnull

•

1y ago

You can't say they are wrong, but neither can they say they are right. None of their "theories" are currently testable. We always end up back at the base case of some neural configuration leading to the emergent property we collectively

call consciousness, even though that term isn't well defined either. It's all hocus-pocus for now, but we'll crack this egg sooner or later.

17

Skarr87

•

1y ago

They're not theories by definition. At best they have a hypothesis and even then what they really have is stretching the word to the very edge of meaning of its loosest definition.

12

3 more replies

Accomplished_Car2803

•

1y ago

There have been a good deal of studies related to psychedelics and expanded consciousness in recent years, with placebo controlled studies that use medical equipment to scan subjects brains finding they impact brain function in all sorts of interesting ways.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36940333/>

I suspect that there are a variety of different ways to expand consciousness, and chemicals are just one of them. Intravenous dmt being akin to a custom machined bleeding edge supercar, while other methods like meditation, weaker psychedelics, binaural beats, etc, are less powerful modes.

I saw a comment here that pointed to the gateway tapes, which I haven't done much looking into yet, but they seem to combine many different techniques together into a unified system. Allegedly those are what led to the purported remote viewing program.

I'm far from an expert on any of these topics, but they've interested me for a long time and the video introduction to them really resonated with other experiences and reading I've done over my last ten years or so.

Not saying it's all true, but it certainly feels like it has some meat to it after testing out hemisync meditation a few times. It's...honestly a little scary. I tried out a hemisync meditation track with headphones 3 or 4 times on different days and on the 4th time I got to a point of bodily sensation that they describe as being close to achieving an out of body experience, and I found myself...sort of frightened that it seemed to be working, as I went into it skeptical.

Been doing some more research and reading before attempting it again, but if you're interested in exploring consciousness beyond just what our senses interpret, give that a poke...no drugs necessary.

Edit: Interestingly enough, circles around this topic often reference "cracking the cosmic egg", as you write perhaps we'll crack the egg sooner or later.

7

4 more replies

3 more replies

[deleted]

•

1y ago

Just humans trying to cope and grasping the straws to fool themselves that there's more to this life and you won't cease to exist after death.

I've been an atheist my whole life, and even i'm guilty of this. (like imagining ways that an afterlife exist, like if the world and time is truly infinite i can exist again, etc)

3

DeepState_Secretary

•

1y ago

Even if we accepted that consciousness exists separate from the material, I'm not sure exactly what meaningful existence would occur without a body.

To rote there is no evidence of sensation without a body. Without neurons there is no memory, without nerves and visual cortexes, there is no taste, touch, sight, or sound. Remove the chemicals and you've removed emotion.

Non-materialist ontologies don't exactly provide a satisfactory answer of what meaningful existence consciousness has without the material.

3

1 more reply

Accomplished_Car2803

•

1y ago

Maybe there is more to our lives, but religions don't resonate with you because they've all got little bits of the puzzle but not the whole picture. I was very anti religion for a long time after being raised into belief, despising the way what are supposed to be positive teachings are twisted for selfish gain or as an excuse to villify.

I think as living humans we might just be too rooted to our lens of perception as a living human to fully comprehend these things, so they get twisted by that perspective of being alive, after all...being alive is all we know, right?

Or of course it all could be cosmic accidents and nothing means anything, but if you ask me that is a narrow, individual centric view of things, just as religions can be posed.

Maybe we're all just lora filters on some sentient ai generation suite of grand scale, within the context of an ai, lora filters have their own learned perspective lens, often times seeing something vastly different than another lens that is given the same prompt.

3

1 more reply

32 more replies

AutoModerator

MOD

•

1y ago

NineFiftySevenAyEm

•

1y ago

Just read the 'article' and there's zero 'link'. It's just a guy stating he believes consciousness is not solely from brain activity.

Why do these posts even get likes?

8

u/TheBigSmoke420 avatar
TheBigSmoke420

•

1y ago
boooooolloooooocks

7
Diet_kush

•

1y ago
I think the problem with all of these articles is that woo-woo connotation that the general population / layman has with "dimension." Brain waves exist as a "higher dimension" of neural interactions, because the plane which describes their time-evolution is a complex phase-space rather than the spatial dimensions of lower-level neural interactions.

Yes, consciousness can be tied to a "higher dimension," but so can almost all systems of information storage and transfer. That is a precisely what a topological defect map is, or any higher-order method of analyzing information densities. All fields exist in this way.

6
TechnoTherapist

•

1y ago
Explaining the unexplained through other unexplained things does not pass muster.

20
[deleted]

•

1y ago
No he didn't? Where? Or do they just mean like, figuratively, just using his words? I don't see any research or anything.

25
NineFiftySevenAyEm

•

1y ago
Yep it's just clickbait

8
[deleted]

•

1y ago
Pseudoscientific garbage

13
[deleted]

•

1y ago
I joined this subreddit in the vain hope of actually having a conversation exploring the origin and nature of consciousness. What I got was desperate crystal-clutchers terrified to die and grasping onto any tiny nugget of a chance that consciousness is somehow magical and we're all going to live forever.

And using "scientific studies" to back this up.

This may as well be a religion sub.

AmarantaRWS

•

1y ago

There needs to be a rationalconsciousness sub like there is r/rationalpsychonaut

8

111 more replies

Zenderlander

•

1y ago

I identify as a scientist and I'd rather rename everything to consciousspacetime and our brains are just connected to it.

Let me have an article too!

6

heeden

•

1y ago

Silly man, all the cool scientists are saying consciousness exists in quantum states beyond our perception.

5

u/josenros avatar

josenros

•

1y ago

If it's beyond our perception, it isn't science.

The article should be titled "scientist fabricates unfounded idea."

5

3 more replies

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8mo ago

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25d ago

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r/HypotheticalPhysics

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5y ago

What if consciousness is just another dimension like time?

13 upvotes · 10 comments

Do any professional researchers of consciousness (neuroscientists, computer scientists, philosophers, physicists, psychologists, etc) read this forum?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

21d ago

Do any professional researchers of consciousness (neuroscientists, computer scientists, philosophers, physicists, psychologists, etc) read this forum?

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#METAD—Imensional Expansion  | Human Consciousness Comes From a Higher Dimension, Scientist Claims—Meaning It Could Transcend the Physical World (6 min read) | Popular Mechanics: Consciousness [Nov 2025]

r/NeuronsToNirvana icon

r/NeuronsToNirvana

•

27d ago

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ac

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r/TheMallWorld

•

1y ago

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1mo ago

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42 upvotes · 95 comments

What if consciousness is the 5th dimension?

r/AdvaitaVedanta icon

r/AdvaitaVedanta

•

2mo ago

What if consciousness is the 5th dimension?

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•

1y ago

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The reason philosophers can't detect consciousness is because they're not studying neuroscience

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6d ago

The reason philosophers can't detect consciousness is because they're not studying neuroscience

117 upvotes · 310 comments

Solving the Hard Problem of Consciousness: A Neuroscientific Approach

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Another Dimension Theory

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12

218 upvotes · 26 comments

Ridiculous theory of consciousness (or not)

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r/consciousness

•

9d ago

Ridiculous theory of consciousness (or not)

5 upvotes · 36 comments

The Consciousness has no physical matter, length, color or form itself. -

Consciousness are in the fourth-dimension or even fifth-dimension?

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The Consciousness has no physical matter, length, color or form itself. -

Consciousness are in the fourth-dimension or even fifth-dimension?

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Why consciousness will never be discovered.

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4mo ago

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Thought experiment regarding AI consciousness

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24d ago

Thought experiment regarding AI consciousness

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Help me find scientific material and sources to learn more about the current state of consciousness research

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Help me find scientific material and sources to learn more about the current state of consciousness research

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Can someone please explain the theory of multiple dimensions?

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Can someone please explain the theory of multiple dimensions?

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The (Updated) Ladder Map of Consciousness

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The (Updated) Ladder Map of Consciousness

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r/Gifted
•
2y ago
Dumpster-Gremlin

On a different plane of existence.

Firstly, this isn't me trying to brag or be cocky, I'm not trying to show off, I'm frustrated and I don't wanna make my words perfect right now.

When I was little I was given an aptitude score of 154 (I technically don't have an IQ, one of my scores was like 2 standard deviations lower) and I haven't told anyone except my therapist. I don't intend on telling anyone either, I think that IQ doesn't determine someone's inherent worth. Anyways I am technically speaking I have a genius IQ I guess.

It feels like I walk on a different plane of existence, im so wrapped up in my own head and I have no idea how other people think and I wish I could understand how others think. But I can't. And I never will and that frustrates me to no end because THEY can't understand me either! It feels like I live in a different world than most of the kids in my school. Sometimes I wish I wasn't.

Don't get me wrong, being like this has benefits and I don't think I would give it up if I had the choice because I wouldn't want to give up my self awareness but I wish I could understand people more and maybe blissful ignorance would be nice I guess but not really. I just don't know what it all means. I don't know why I'm saying this even, I guess I just want to tell someone, anyone outside of my family and doctors. I just wanna rant.

Sometimes the world makes no sense I guess.

Thanks for reading.

Edit:

When I say I'm on a different plane of existence I mean that it feels like I live in a completely different world than everyone else. I'm so lost in my imagination and my own thoughts. It just feels like I'm not really all here and fully present in the world emotionally and mentally.

Also, I misspoke, I am not a genius, my aptitude score would be genius IQ.

The only reason I included my aptitude score was because I haven't told anybody irl and I just wanna vent about it to someone, literally anyone. My mom didn't tell me until 10th grade or so because I didn't need it going to my head as a kid, which was a very good idea on her part. It was weird to just hear it and it left me with a lot of weird feelings.

13

.

104

Comments Section

intjdad

•

2y ago

Why do you feel different? People always say stuff like this and never elaborate, and I always have to wonder if they're associating other issues with their giftedness. Sure giftedness can cause disconnection, but considering the other issues we often have with giftedness, it is honestly often the other issue that's at play.

What don't you understand about other people?

15

Dumpster-Gremlin

OP

•

2y ago

Ahh, it's just generally.

When I say I'm on a different plane of existence I mean that it feels like I live in a completely different world than everyone else. I'm so lost in my imagination and my own thoughts. It just feels like I'm not really all here and fully present in the world emotionally and mentally.

Idk why. Could be a lot of things.

Anyways it just frustrates me that I'll never know exactly what it's like to think as other people. It's fascinating to think about and infuriating that I can't know exactly.

6

Celatra

•

2y ago

nobody knows exactly how other people think. literally no person knows how someone else thinks like. that's why miscommunication happens all the time.

6

5 more replies

intjdad

•

2y ago

When I say I'm on a different plane of existence I mean that it feels like I live in a completely different world than everyone else. I'm so lost in my imagination and my own thoughts. It just feels like I'm not really all

here

and fully present in the world emotionally and mentally.

That's not giftedness, that's dissociation

4

1 more reply

u/eh_tamine_enihcam avatar

eh_tamine_enihcam

•

2y ago

I actually made a similar post recently. I'm in your ballpark.

I agree it's important to keep humble and remember that IQ by itself is meaningless, only achievements matter to others. We DO probably think different, but we are not better. Having a high IQ can lead to superiority complexes where people think they can't relate because they are smart, but it may just be due to lacking social skill. I personally have observed and mimic what I've seen socially.

You can somewhat understand how others think. You figure out their motivations, values, and background, and that gives a good reference on their wants and how they will act in a situation. The most basic version is just figure what maximises reward and minimises risk/effort. People can SAY they have a certain motivation, but you can read them quite well after a while from their actions. Then, figure out if it's profitable for you to interact with them (reward can be hanging out and having a good time).

Do you play sport/games and get into non-thinking flowstates? Meditation may also help to think less and just vibe.

15

u/TrigPiggy avatar

TrigPiggy

•

2y ago

So while it's true that you don't want to adopt feelings of superiority to anyone, there are definite disconnects that aren't always how someone behaves socially. Constantly having to adjust frequency to interact with other people is exhausting and frustrating and it makes you feel like you are constantly hiding yourself.

I suppose it also depends on who you are interacting with, but it 100% does exist and it ain't always just a social awkwardness situation.

I have it happen all the time, and I work in sales, it's my job to relate to people and get them to trust/like me. I would say socially I am not super awkward in most situations, and that gaps in intelligence ABSOLUTELY affect how you interact.

Think of it this way, could you have the exact same conversation, level of depth, speed, reciprocation, topics discussed, retention with someone who was severely intellectually disabled as you could someone around average?

This doesn't mean the person is any less valuable as a human being, there are just differences.

It would be like saying everyone is the same height. It isn't true.

5

5 more replies

u/IAbsolutelyDare avatar

IAbsolutelyDare

•

2y ago

"We dream of foreign countries, of other times and races of men, placing them at a distance in history or space; but let some significant event like the present occur in our midst, and we discover, often, this distance and this strangeness between us and our nearest neighbors. They are our Austrias, and Chinas, and South Sea Islands. Our crowded society becomes well-spaced all at once, clean and handsome to the eye - a city of magnificent distances. We discover why it was that we never got beyond compliments and surfaces with them before; we

become aware of as many versts between us and them as there are between a wandering Tartar and a Chinese town. The thoughtful man becomes a hermit in the thoroughfares of the marketplace. Impassable seas suddenly find their level between us, or dumb steppes stretch themselves out there. It is the difference of constitution, of intelligence, and faith, and not streams and mountains, that make the true and impassable boundaries between individuals and between states."
- Henry David Thoreau, A Plea For Captain John Brown

6

[deleted]

•

2y ago

u/monstertacotime avatar

monstertacotime

•

2y ago

Just fake it. If you're as smart as you claim it should be a simple exercise of reading a couple of books, studying some YouTube videos, and practicing with "normal" people.

Stop trying to sell this "I'm on another plane" idea. It's nonsense. You're a human. You experience stress, discord, and tribulation just like everyone else.

11

Dumpster-Gremlin

OP

•

2y ago

Also I'm not really people smart. And I have severe social anxiety. I don't think most people want to talk to me. I mean, I have fun conversation with new people, it's just that a lot of people don't really wanna talk about zoology and Minecraft and writing, it's hard to find a topic that other people like too. I may be generally smart, but I'm not good at people. I'm not all knowing, I'm not some prodigy, the only "prodigy" skill I have is remembering song lyrics.

3

11 more replies

u/Humble_Aardvark_2997 avatar

Humble_Aardvark_2997

•

2y ago

You are not a genius. YET. You are gifted and have the potential to become one but that makes you sound like Chris Langan. You have to bring about a paradigm shift in the understanding of some field to be considered a genius. At least make some noteworthy contribution.

6

Dumpster-Gremlin

OP

•

2y ago

I misspoke. What I meant is, on a technical level if my aptitude score qualified as an IQ score I meet the requirements of having genius IQ. Of course, IQ is just one measure of intelligence. I know I haven't really achieved anything significant yet, I'm 16! I'm working my ass off to be good at art and writing. I don't say I'm smart JUST based off of IQ. (I fucking hate complementing myself god).

I'll edit the post, I'm sorry, as I said in the post, It's not worded well because it's just a rant about how isolated I feel from my peers and how lost I

feel in the world.

3

5 more replies

IProtecttheMonsters

•

2y ago

Sounds like alexithymia

4

Dumpster-Gremlin

OP

•

2y ago

I'm actually really good at recognizing and articulating my emotions!

3

u/MaterialConsequences avatar

MaterialConsequences

•

2y ago

Yeah I can say the same, then I realized how I experience emotions or the lack thereof.

I'm kind of confused as to how the above redditor correlated your OP with alexithymia, though.

Also in the same breath I will say this to your OP and comments— welcome to the party. I live in my own world, and constantly find myself spacing out whilst doing something because I am brooding over how absurd reality and society is. I'd much rather dig into my coworkers about their philosophical and political beliefs, rather than something trivial with small talk or something I'm not interested in. The reality is that people have constructed their own world that they live in, it does more harm than good to wish that yours overlaps with theirs in perfect resonance. I circumvent this by finding people who share similar interests with me, or peeling away the layers of someone who I think has a good personality until we both are vulnerable enough where I can info dump on them without remorse. It's a lonely game sure, but you will be surprised by how someone may show interest if you validate and reciprocate.

2

2 more replies

DragonOfMidnightBlue

•

2y ago

Well hold on a second. What even is an aptitude score? What do you mean you dont have an IQ? If you scored on an IQ test 2 SD's lower, then is that not your IQ?

2

[deleted]

•

2y ago

Quick Google search: An aptitude test is an exam used to determine an individual's skill or propensity to succeed in a given activity. Aptitude tests assume that individuals have inherent strengths and weaknesses and have a natural inclination toward success or failure in specific areas based on their innate characteristics.

I don't know what OP meant by not having an IQ. Maybe they don't have

measurements of intelligence in that other plane of existence.

3

DragonOfMidnightBlue

•

2y ago

Ok thats cool and all, but that doesnt really explain what a score of 154 means lol. For all we know it could be an aptitude test measuring how many hot dogs they can consume in an hour. We dont know if 154 is a good score or bad score either. The scoring system may not be normalized around 100, or even normalized at all.

2

14 more replies

1 more reply

UsedName01

•

2y ago

Can you give us some insight into how you think? Like for example, I think in pictures and videos like I can basically CAD design in my brain with very minimal information. And yeah it's freaky

2

u/-VitreousHumor- avatar

-VitreousHumor-

•

2y ago

IQ isn't as important as you think. You're more likely to be successful if you have a high EQ, actually. Cool thing about that is you can learn how to increase your EQ, and if you have a decent IQ, it will be so much easier.

Ppl aren't that hard. Everyone wants love and to be appreciated and listened to. Everyone makes sense in their own head. Learn how to get to know other ppl. Use your intelligence to keep a file on them in your head. They totally make sense. Give honest compliments.

Was incredibly unpopular as a child/young adult. Now I'm really popular at work bc I learned certain skills. Everyone loves me bc I am loving them. If they're annoying, work to understand them. Usually my annoyance melts away when I realize they are lost, struggling, lonely, etc.

You're not on a different plane. I mean, maybe. But you don't have to be. I do understand not having your intellectual needs met, but you can make games out of things for yourself. I'm an amateur sociologist, an amateur shrink. I give myself puzzles to stay interested.

One of the most interesting people I've met recently was in the special Ed class in school. I think he was maybe adhd and they didn't know what to do w him, bc he is clever and sneaky. Rebellious. I wasn't judging him based on IQ or words he knows. He does not know big words, but we read ppl together. He's as good as I am!

You can use your intelligence to find things you can relate w others.

2

Dumpster-Gremlin

OP

•

2y ago

When I say I'm on a different plane of existence I mean that it feels like I

live in a completely different world than everyone else. I'm so lost in my imagination and my own thoughts. It just feels like I'm not really all here and fully present in the world emotionally and mentally.

Also I don't judge people based on IQ or general intelligence, that would be stupid. That's why I don't share my score with others, because internet not a measure of worth and it's only one measure of intelligence!

Also people in my pe class probably think I'm weird because the only people I hang out with are in the special Ed class, but I don't care because they're my friends :)

2
[deleted]

•

2y ago

You're young, and it's totally appropriate to be figuring this out right now. You're the kind of person I love to talk with— I have had many long and delightful conversations about Minecraft, entomology, marx, textual analysis, etc with a gifted & neurodivergent loved one. The most important thing you can do right now is cultivate radical self-acceptance and self-love. It sounds like you know yourself pretty well. It's kind of wonderful to be different. When you can totally accept it and be at peace with it and find comfort with being authentic in a world that "makes no sense", you'll thrive. Just keep working on it in therapy, you'll get there.

2
More posts you may like
How to explain the Planes of Existence?
r/dndnext icon
r/dndnext

•

3y ago

How to explain the Planes of Existence?
44 upvotes · 30 comments
Can somebody please explain the planes of existence? Is there a flow chart explaining how they all link together?
r/Buddhism icon
r/Buddhism

•

11y ago

Can somebody please explain the planes of existence? Is there a flow chart explaining how they all link together?
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r/worldbuilding icon
r/worldbuilding

•

8y ago

What are the planes of existence in your world?
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What are the planes of the spirit world exactly?
r/spirituality icon
r/spirituality

•

3y ago

What are the planes of the spirit world exactly?
6 upvotes · 10 comments
What planes of existence are their in your universes?
r/worldbuilding icon
r/worldbuilding

•

9y ago

What planes of existence are their in your universes?

22 upvotes · 23 comments

I'm on a different plane from you

r/Shadowverse icon

r/Shadowverse

•

5y ago

I'm on a different plane from you

r/Shadowverse - I'm on a different plane from you

173 upvotes · 5 comments

I saw another plane while flying

r/mildlyinteresting icon

r/mildlyinteresting

•

4y ago

I saw another plane while flying

r/mildlyinteresting - I saw another plane while flying

116 upvotes · 29 comments

Existence is futile

r/DoomerCircleJerk icon

r/DoomerCircleJerk

•

3mo ago

Existence is futile

r/DoomerCircleJerk - Existence is futile

416 upvotes · 82 comments

Do you think ghosts, angels and demons exist on the same plane?

r/Ghosts icon

r/Ghosts

•

3y ago

Do you think ghosts, angels and demons exist on the same plane?

45 upvotes · 71 comments

What is the difference between dimensions, realms, planes, parallel worlds, alternate realities, alternate timelines, and alternate universes?

r/worldbuilding icon

r/worldbuilding

•

4y ago

What is the difference between dimensions, realms, planes, parallel worlds, alternate realities, alternate timelines, and alternate universes?

34 upvotes · 9 comments

How are higher planes / other realms accessed within your worlds?

r/worldbuilding icon

r/worldbuilding

•

8mo ago

How are higher planes / other realms accessed within your worlds?

12 upvotes · 20 comments

What is even the point of consciousness?

r/Pessimism icon

r/Pessimism

•

13d ago

What is even the point of consciousness?

34 upvotes · 36 comments

I feel like i'm dumb even tho im gifted

r/Gifted icon

r/Gifted

•

4mo ago

I feel like i'm dumb even tho im gifted

21 upvotes · 37 comments

Wasted potential

r/Gifted icon

r/Gifted

•

11d ago

Wasted potential

26 upvotes · 12 comments

Are the other planes just... giant planet-like structures compared to the prime material plane?

r/DnD icon

r/DnD

•

2y ago

Are the other planes just... giant planet-like structures compared to the prime material plane?

35 upvotes · 35 comments

Can humans be native to other planes than the material plane?

r/DnD icon

r/DnD

•

5y ago

Can humans be native to other planes than the material plane?

12 upvotes · 21 comments

Who here feels incredibly guilty for even just being perceived as intelligent?

r/Gifted icon

r/Gifted

•

3mo ago

Who here feels incredibly guilty for even just being perceived as intelligent?

81 upvotes · 194 comments

I don't understand why people don't listen to me, is it normal?

r/Gifted icon

r/Gifted

•

4d ago

I don't understand why people don't listen to me, is it normal?

68 upvotes · 65 comments

I'm not alone (and neither are you)

r/Gifted icon

r/Gifted

•

21d ago

I'm not alone (and neither are you)

70 upvotes · 14 comments

Being smart is a lonely experience.

r/Gifted icon

r/Gifted

•

17d ago

Being smart is a lonely experience.

45 upvotes · 46 comments

Accidentally assuming the majority are like us?

r/Gifted icon

r/Gifted

•

3mo ago

Accidentally assuming the majority are like us?

118 upvotes · 63 comments

What does "ascending to a higher plane" mean in your world?

r/worldbuilding icon

r/worldbuilding

•

2y ago

What does "ascending to a higher plane" mean in your world?

r/worldbuilding - What does "ascending to a higher plane" mean in your world?

7 upvotes · 3 comments

How do you deal with people being so incredibly lost
r/Gifted icon
r/Gifted

•

7mo ago
How do you deal with people being so incredibly lost
84 upvotes · 63 comments
I'm exhausted
r/Gifted icon
r/Gifted

•

5mo ago
I'm exhausted
74 upvotes · 51 comments
I Just Feel Weird/Off...Is This Normal?
r/Gifted icon
r/Gifted

•

1mo ago
I Just Feel Weird/Off...Is This Normal?
26 upvotes · 20 comments
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Consciousness is the only reason the Universe exists : r/DeepThoughts

Open menu

r/DeepThoughts
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Expand user menu
r/DeepThoughts icon
Go to DeepThoughts
r/DeepThoughts

•

2y ago
Haydenj27

Consciousness is the only reason the Universe exists
Just had an interesting thought today... If our brains a neurons constantly firing impulses, then in reality all of brains operate on is light in the form of energy. But we all know there is another level to this. If light has no mass or matter how does consciousness even exist? This would mean that the entire idea

of consciousness breaks the bounds of science and does not cooperate with how the rest of the universe works. Our brains are 4-Dimensional being viewing a world in a 3D space. Which means I'm the hierarchy of reality... consciousness is at the top. The universe only exists because we are perceiving it. What are your guys thoughts on this?

50

•

197

Comments Section

u/Zagenti avatar

Zagenti

•

2y ago

welcome to spirituality. Now the deep thinking really begins :)

12

[deleted]

•

2y ago

Light doesn't need mass to affect our brains. Light is energy. Light hits our eyes which is converted to electricity which excites neurons which becomes vision.

If we are the reason the universe exists, then how did we get here? What happened before us?

22

[deleted]

•

2y ago

No metaphysical framework explains that including materialism.

He's just musing.

9

Thrasy3

•

2y ago

I feel I could copy and paste this comment into a lot of posts on this sub.

7

3 more replies

5 more replies

RefrigeratorJaded910

•

2y ago

Our brains don't operate on light. They operate on electrical signals generated by the movement of chemicals, which do have mass

8

u/Haydenj27 avatar

Haydenj27

OP

•

2y ago

Yes, my theory definitely had an over simplification of how science works. I'm trying to ask the question does consciousness have mass or matter?

2

u/GoodhartMusic avatar

GoodhartMusic

•

2y ago

You're asking if software has mass. No, the equipment powering it does.

It's like asking if macOS has mass while MS-DOS doesn't.

3

1 more reply

6 more replies

u/kevinLFC avatar

kevinLFC

•

2y ago

This would mean that consciousness existed before life, before the formation of stars and planets. If your hypothesis is correct, then shouldn't we be able to find evidence of consciousness outside of the brain?

4

meme-by-design

•

2y ago

Whats the evidence for consciousness inside the brain? What even is consciousness for that matter?

6

u/kevinLFC avatar

kevinLFC

•

2y ago

Fair questions. I don't have comprehensive answers to them, but here's how I would answer:

I'd say consciousness is our subjective experience of observing and acting upon the world.

We have evidence that it is linked to biological/neurological processes of the brain and maybe other organs. Evidence includes physical/chemical alteration to these organs producing alterations in consciousness.

3

5 more replies

3 more replies

[deleted]

•

2y ago

I'm surprised the people on this sub don't talk more about this, consciousness is the only thing that anyone has ever experienced, the idea of there being anything outside of consciousness is entirely theoretical, everything being consciousness actually solves a lot of modern oddities such as explaining spiritual and paranormal phenomena, it's also supported by quantum physics, and has a rich history of exploration by the oldest civilizations we know of, I assume the next big paradigm shift will be this shift towards a consciousness-centric view of the universe

2

meme-by-design

•

2y ago

The title statement is an interesting one and has been fiercely discussed for hundreds or even thousands of years within philosophical discourse... but your reasoning is borderline nonsensical, showing a clear misunderstanding of physics and an overly simplistic view of consciousness or even how the brain functions. I'd encourage you to look into the philosophy of idealism and continue to cultivate your curious mind.

9

u/Haydenj27 avatar

Haydenj27

OP

•

2y ago

What would you recommend first?

3

u/Khan_baton avatar

Khan_baton

•

2y ago

Stop doing cocaina colombiana

6

1 more reply

meme-by-design

•

2y ago

Many people consider Plato to be the father of Idealism and then later move on to Kant, but I've personally always found modern lessons that just summarize their most interesting or significant views were sufficient to gain a broad understanding. Try the youtube channel (Philosophize This!)

2

1 more reply

u/Tomas_Baratheon avatar

Tomas_Baratheon

•

2y ago

If the scientific consensus is that the Universe is 13.7 billion years old, the Earth is 4.5 billion years old, and homo sapiens as we more or less genetically are have been around 200,000 or so years, it would seem as though it wasn't particularly necessary for us to be here for the Universe to have properties regarding matter, energy, time, et cetera.

3

5 more replies

TheSmokingHorse

•

2y ago

Why are you concluding that brains operate on photons? Neurons fire through ionic mechanisms. They operate chemically and electrically. This does not break the bounds of science at all.

3

Blasket_Basket

•

2y ago

On the one hand, neuroscientists would say this claim is based on a number of wildly incorrect assumptions.

But on the other hand, physicists would also say this, too.

3

4 more replies

tomorrow509

•

2y ago

Life gives meaning to the universe. Intelligence gives significance to life and thus the universe.

2

elle-tied

•

2y ago

humans are so self obsessed they'll proclaim if it wasn't for them the universe wouldn't exist 😊

2

8 more replies

Okdes

•

2y ago

So this sub randomly got recommended to me and it seems to be slightly better worded r/showerthoughts with even more pseudo-intellectual pontification

2

RacecarHealthPotato

•

2y ago

You'll like this guy's INCREDIBLE journey. He's a pioneer, really, and speaks about the specifics he experienced during his 20 years of a journey into consciousness.

There is a lot better way to address this using older epistemic approaches like Sanatana Dharma to explain, train and experience this directly for yourself, as that man did.

2

1 more reply

Illustrious-Win-6562

•

2y ago

Thts a lot of words you don't understand properly lmao

4

4 more replies

TheDudeIsStrange

•

2y ago

What's even more intriguing is learning that the very process you have thought with, is the same energy that creates the universe. Look at sonoluminescence and cymatic patterns. It's almost as if the universe is a mind.

2

More posts you may like

I don't understand why people think consciousness is somehow fundamental to the universe.

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

3y ago

I don't understand why people think consciousness is somehow fundamental to the universe.

22 upvotes · 168 comments

Consciousness is the universe experiencing itself, with each of us as a unique perspective in its infinite reflection. (we are god?)

r/DeepThoughts icon

r/DeepThoughts

•

1y ago

Consciousness is the universe experiencing itself, with each of us as a unique perspective in its infinite reflection. (we are god?)

40 upvotes · 40 comments

The Mental Universe - The only reality is mind and observations, but observations are not of things. To see the Universe as it really is, we must abandon our tendency to conceptualize observations as things.

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

2y ago

The Mental Universe - The only reality is mind and observations, but observations are not of things. To see the Universe as it really is, we must abandon our tendency to conceptualize observations as things.

8 upvotes · 27 comments

Consciousness Is the Universe's Immune System. And It's Attacking Itself.

r/DeepThoughts icon

r/DeepThoughts

•

4mo ago

Consciousness Is the Universe's Immune System. And It's Attacking Itself.

168 upvotes · 81 comments

Anyone have this sense of anxiety about the universe?

r/space icon

r/space

•

3y ago

Anyone have this sense of anxiety about the universe?

126 upvotes · 186 comments

Why is consciousness important to the universe?

r/askphilosophy icon

r/askphilosophy

•

7y ago

Why is consciousness important to the universe?

82 upvotes · 55 comments

Consciousness is the universe experiencing itself.

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

1mo ago

Consciousness is the universe experiencing itself.

149 upvotes · 82 comments

Why some scientists believe the universe is conscious

r/philosophy icon

r/philosophy

•

7y ago

Why some scientists believe the universe is conscious

r/philosophy - Why some scientists believe the universe is conscious

mindmatters

4.1K upvotes · 1.2K comments

Would the universe exist if there were no conscious organisms to observe it?

r/askphilosophy icon

r/askphilosophy

•

6y ago

Would the universe exist if there were no conscious organisms to observe it?

39 upvotes · 22 comments

God is consciousness

r/enlightenment icon

r/enlightenment

•

2mo ago

God is consciousness

r/enlightenment - God is consciousness

752 upvotes · 245 comments

Consciousness being Fundamental and the Universe being self sustaining/organizing?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

2y ago

Consciousness being Fundamental and the Universe being self sustaining/organizing?

9 upvotes · 106 comments

Could there be consciousness before the big bang?

r/Metaphysics

•

3y ago

Could there be consciousness before the big bang?

26 upvotes · 20 comments

It seems people have different levels of consciousness.

r/DeepThoughts icon

r/DeepThoughts

•

7mo ago

It seems people have different levels of consciousness.

181 upvotes · 42 comments

We absolutely should be studying consciousness like a damn science.

r/enlightenment icon

r/enlightenment

•

2mo ago

We absolutely should be studying consciousness like a damn science.

209 upvotes · 67 comments

What do we actually know about consciousness?

r/cognitivescience

•

3mo ago

What do we actually know about consciousness?

85 upvotes · 61 comments

Where does my consciousness end and the universe begin?

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

1y ago

Where does my consciousness end and the universe begin?

41 upvotes · 167 comments

consciousness the universe being aware of itself

r/consciousness icon

r/consciousness

•

2y ago

consciousness the universe being aware of itself

20 upvotes · 35 comments

Do we exist because the Universe exists, or does the Universe exist because we exist?

r/Existentialism icon

r/Existentialism

•

5y ago

Do we exist because the Universe exists, or does the Universe exist because we exist?

9 upvotes · 10 comments

Why do you think your consciousness chose the human experience?

r/spirituality icon

r/spirituality

•

6mo ago

Why do you think your consciousness chose the human experience?

25 upvotes · 31 comments

People think the universe either must have came from nothing or existed forever. But maybe there is another option that is incomprehensible to us.

r/DeepThoughts icon

r/DeepThoughts

•

1mo ago

People think the universe either must have came from nothing or existed forever. But maybe there is another option that is incomprehensible to us.

302 upvotes · 115 comments

Life is the death of consciousness. Death is the birth of it.

r/DeepThoughts icon

r/DeepThoughts

•

2mo ago

Life is the death of consciousness. Death is the birth of it.

43 upvotes · 12 comments

Going Beyond the Mind- A Reflection on Consciousness

r/spirituality icon

r/spirituality

•

25d ago

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Consciousness is truth.

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Latest Scientific research in consciousness blew my mind. it's what we have been saying since generations

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Do you believe consciousness ends with our body ?

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The Mandela Effect is a phenomenon where a large group of people share a false memory about a past event or detail. Here are some of the most popular theories and discussions about its origins and nature, including theories involving timelines and dimensions:

Theories on the Mandela Effect

Timelines and Dimensions

Merging Timelines: Some believe that the Mandela Effect is a result of timelines merging. One Redditor suggests that the effect occurs because of the fractal nature of spacetime, where different timelines can intersect and cause shared false memories. "I believe the true reason the ME occurs is because of the fractal nature of spacetime."

Timeline Collapsing: Another theory suggests that the Mandela Effect is due to the collapsing of timelines. This could explain why certain details change and people remember them differently. "Well this supports the theory that the timeline is collapsing."

Multiverse Transference: Some people think that the Mandela Effect is a result of people being transferred into a different timeline or dimension. "If the Mandela Effect is the result of some kind of multiverse transference, does anyone know when it actually happened?"

Psychological Explanations

False Memories: Many believe that the Mandela Effect is simply a case of mass false memories. This theory suggests that people misremember details due to psychological factors like confirmation bias and suggestibility. "Claiming MEs are due to misremembering or 'false memories' is not dismissive."

Group Think: The phenomenon could also be attributed to group think, where people's memories are influenced by the collective memory of a group. "Group

think is especially fascinating, but I rest assured that one thing that unite all (living) people is that we're on the same timeline."

Historical and Cultural Factors

Urban Legends and Lore: Some suggest that the Mandela Effect has always existed in the form of urban legends and folklore, but it has become more prominent with the rise of the internet. "Back in the day, some of the subject matter and similar stuff were contained in urban legends."

Pop Culture Influence: Many Mandela Effects are related to well-known pop culture references, which could be due to the constant exposure and reinterpretation of these details. "The vast majority of reported Effects are from things that were well known in popular culture over a 25 year span from 1970-1995."

Notable Mandela Effects

Berenstain Bears: Many people remember the spelling as "Berenstein Bears" instead of "Berenstain Bears." "2001 is when someone told me that the Berenstain Bears changed."

Fruit of the Loom Logo: Some people vividly remember the logo including a cornucopia, which is not present in the current logo. "I definitely remember fruit of the loom with the cornucopia."

JFK Car: There is a common misconception that President Kennedy's car had four seats instead of six. "About 9 years starting with the jfk car (late 2016) where my suspicions started."

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r/MandelaEffectSociety

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•

4y ago
AnarZaram

The Mandela Effect is a natural result of timelines merging. Everyone who believes in the Mandela Effect has their own theory on why it exists. I've seen many point to the LHC, while others dismiss the effect entirely as mass false memories. I would like to posit that the Mandela Effect is actually a natural phenomenon. I believe the true reason the ME occurs is because of the fractal nature of spacetime.

To help facilitate a better picture of what this truly means, let us examine spacetime as it is presented in string theory. Imagine that all the possible timelines for all pieces of matter were stretched out in strings across 3D space. The 'start' of time would be very small, and every frame in which the universe updates would propagate the strings of time further into space. Because of the quantum nature of observation and decision making, every time there are two possible outcomes to a timeline, the timeline must split into two timelines. This results in the overall spacial structure of each timeline to present itself as a fractal tree: one node which splits into two, with every node further dividing infinitely.

Except: what if space wasn't infinitely small? Fractals are still trying to be fully understood by mathematicians around the globe. One of the most frustrating things to wrap your head around is the fact that while the area of a fractal is finite, the perimeter is supposedly infinite. This is because mathematics can subdivide infinitely, so there is never a reason to assume we've hit the 'limit' of subdivision. But space is not a theory; space is real. Energy must have a smallest quantum state it can exist in, and anything smaller than that must not be able to exist. Because of this, every fractal found in nature must necessarily end. The smallest subdivisions of the spacetime fractal are what I believe to be the Mandela Effect.

Picture the very edges of two timelines existing together within a finite space. They have both reached the absolute smallest subdivision of each of their fractal trees, and now both of them want to propagate further into space. Because there is no more room for both timelines to subdivide again, only one timeline can propagate. However, instead of one timeline or the other propagating, I believe the timelines 'merge.' In order to be that close to each other anyway, they must have extremely similar sets of data compiling that universe, and the merging picks the most mundane difference between the two timelines and removes that difference.

People often ask why MEs are mundane, but I believe they have to be in order for a smooth transition between universes. The more that an individual is certain a reality exists, the more likely that reality is going to be the 'main' reality which occurs when the timelines merge. If the president of a faraway country dies and you watch his funeral, but then that funeral becomes mundane and irrelevant to you because of how faraway that country is, you are more likely to transfer to a timeline where that leader still exists, only because it had no bearing on your life. If you spent your entire existence in that country with that president however, you would find yourself much more firmly in that timeline, and would be shocked to find a huge subset of the world thought your president died earlier.

Anyway, all of this is just a theory. Even if it is right, my personal belief is that the Mandela Effect is just a natural occurrence which is out of our control. Obsessing over it will only lead to insanity, but denying its existence is becoming harder and harder as more people share their own experiences. Maybe we do all have false memories and are just too proud to admit it. But there's nothing wrong with taking the time to theorize something more.

25

.

91

Comments Section

u/helic0n3 avatar

helic0n3

•

4y ago

Problem I have with "big" theories like yours is why does it only result in trivial changes in things like logos or brand names? If universes are merging then changes should be huge.

5

u/throwaway998i avatar

throwaway998i

•

4y ago

Why do you continue to pretend like you've never heard about wordline ME's such as geography, anatomy, and the like? You keep hammering this "trivial changes" narrative as if you have a vested interest in skewing the actual discussion for some bizarre reason. I think it's safe to say your credibility is nonexistent at this point.

5

u/helic0n3 avatar

helic0n3

•

4y ago

Because claiming that stuff like countries or vital organs have moved is clearly absurd. Find me a geographer, native of the countries in question or doctor who agrees. They are widely dismissed and people in this sub just keep going back to Berenstain or cornucopias and the like.

5

24 more replies

3 more replies

kulalolk

•

4y ago

Claiming MEs are due to misremembering or "false memories" is not dismissive. Everyone has their own theories, just as you said. Why do you get to say it's a "natural result of timelines merging", when that's just your theory, but others who's theory is fallible human memory, are "being dismissive"?

You've shown bias and torn down those who believe differently than you in the first two sentences.

Your theory is full of shit. Too many "what if's".

4

u/DukeboxHiro avatar

DukeboxHiro

•

4y ago

I think you're reading a context that OP didn't intend with the word "dismiss". I didn't infer it as that confrontational.

6

kulalolk

•

4y ago

"While others dismiss the effect entirely as mass false memories" appears to demean those who's theories revolve around memory. Clearly you and I think differently. It's condescending.

People here don't "dismiss" it as "mass false memories". It's just their own theory, just like OPs theory is merging timelines. It's incredibly demeaning that OPs unproven, unverifiable, science fiction theory is an acceptable theory (at least in their eyes), but the known, studied, and scientifically verified malleability of the human memory is thrown away as dismissive. It's a punch in the gut.

This subreddit has a conspiracy/science fiction voice that calls people who think MEs are memory related, skeptics. For all I know, it's the conspiracy people that are the skeptics. Playing fantasy armchair scientist, trying to discover multiverses and alternate timelines that theoretical physicists have yet to understand, and using that absurd, unsubstantiated theory to explain that's why people remember things differently. All the while refusing to accept peer-reviewed human memory research papers that prove long term memories can be subconsciously "edited" or even "corrupted", overwriting existing memories with other information.

You never see a "misremembering" or "false memory" from last week on this subreddit, it's always a "vivid memory" or someone "distinctly remembering" an event from years, or even DECADES ago, and they're always incorrect in some way. Example; "i remember Froot Loops being called Fruit Loops." Oh is that so? Where's your proof? "I don't have any, it's just a theory." What's your basis for having this theory? "It's different than it used to be." Right... so, things being "different" somehow, magically, points to unproven, typical science fiction movie theories, and absolutely cannot be the proven faults in human memory. Gotcha.

8

7 more replies

u/thoughtwanderer avatar

thoughtwanderer

•

4y ago

Ok, so all OP said was (before sharing his theories)

others dismiss the effect entirely as mass false memories

You said

Claiming MEs are due to misremembering or "false memories" is not dismissive.

Followed by

You've shown bias and torn down those who believe differently than you in the first two sentences.

Your theory is full of shit. Too many "what if's".

The dictionary definition of "to dismiss" is

to treat as unworthy of serious consideration.

So, exactly who is being dismissive here? ;)

0

entertherematrix

•

4y ago

Because attributing it to fallible human memory ends the discussion, it's the literal definition of dismissive lol

-2

Bowieblackstarflower

•

4y ago

Some people will say stuff like, not on my timeline, which is something that is also dismissive of anything else and ends the discussion.

4

bitofvenom

•

4y ago

Awell. Why not hijack the topic and divert back to 'false memories'.

This is not a topic for you. You believe in the false memories.

What if you are in a christian sub. Would you be upset aswell if people call out the dismissiveness that 'Jesus never existed'?

Because that is what you are doing. Not adding anything to the topic. Just be upset calling your superior theory of false memory, 'dismissive'. How dare they!

-3

[deleted]

•

4y ago

Most Christians are unwilling to discuss anything that might put their system of beliefs in question. Do you want the same level of discourse from this sub?

2

24 more replies

2 more replies

goodbeer11

•

4y ago

The people whom claim ME are just false memories are wrong. Anyone with a powerful ME experience (or NDE, DMT/hallucinations, deep meditation, or other unexplainable spiritual experience for that matter) can say for a fact that something very real happened.

Science is always changing. And when you look back at scientific theories, you'll see they changed due to the cultural changes that occurred before the science came up with a new accepted theory which fit into those cultural norms. Science does NOT lead the way, the culture does.

What we are doing here is writing science fiction, in an attempt to understand something much bigger than any of us could ever understand. And that's great. I thank you for the thoughtful effort. In due time, I'm sure the science will come around to explain, and give authority to a new way of looking at the world which ME will fit into. Is it that we live in a giant hive mind, different timelines, a hologram, a simulation, an electric universe? IDK. I do know the accepted theory that the universe was built and runs like a machine was great as we began the Industrial Age, but it is not working as we move towards an age tied into the digital world.

1

Shaggywaffle

•

4y ago

No matter how smart you try and make it sound, it's still stupid

-1

u/JakeRoberts0601 avatar

JakeRoberts0601

•

3y ago

Its not easy to accept. Some may never, if you do there's immense gratitude and postivity to be found. The timeline shift opened pathways that laid dormant or never existed. Things are going to start changing, rapidly. Buckle up. The corrupt structures of my original timeline will continue to crumble. Higher dimensional beings and immigrants from the cosmos will lift us up. For some, like me, its already happenend. Be well. Find your peace, find the light darkness.will fail.

2

[deleted]

•

4y ago

Dismissive troll

-3

Shaggywaffle

•

4y ago

Or someone with actual brain cells who knows that this is all BS because people can't accept they didn't remember something right.

3

4 more replies

georgeananda

•

4y ago

Thanks. This is one of the better explanation posts I've seen on here.

every time there are two possible outcomes to a timeline, the timeline must split into two timelines.

My mind boggles here as it would seem there would be infinite possibilities each with infinite possibilities with infinite Where does that 'two' come from?

-1

u/DukeboxHiro avatar

DukeboxHiro

•

4y ago

Where does that 'two' come from?

It's a simplification of any possible outcome boiling down to a 50/50 decision - something happened, or didn't. Infinite would be accurate from a wider perspective.

1

undeadblackzero

•

4y ago

<https://youtu.be/dd7BILZcYAY> I recommend the Steins Gate Anime. Interesting Plot. its a tentaquil

0
[deleted]

•
4y ago

But why do things change for people at different times? That lends itself to us moving into different existing timelines.

Excellent post.

-1
u/AnarZaram avatar
AnarZaram
OP

•
4y ago
Thank you.

You raise a very good point. I do think in my OP I implied that the only possible implementation of the Mandela Effect is through a transfer to a newly propagated timeline, but I do believe it is also possible through this theory to transfer to an "existing" timeline. Just because the subdivision of one timeline fractal ends does not necessarily mean that the timeline next to it needs to meet an end at the exact same time. The end result is still the same, with one timeline 'merging' into another timeline, whether that timeline is established or new. And just because a mundane data point may have been erased during the transfer does not necessarily mean that that data point cannot revert during another timeline transfer. If every timeline truly is next to another that it may collapse into when each timeline runs out of finite space to propagate into, that may mean that the same data point needs to oscillate multiple times before reaching a stable end result. Thus, it is entirely possible for entities to experience dual realities multiple times before stabilizing on a 'true' reality.

1

2 more replies
Nevereveragain81

•
4y ago

I love this, it just makes sense to me. I have experienced many ME's, as a central european most are irrelevant in my day-to-day life, and some things i would not have even heard about as those never made it across to my country. But e few really hit me hard. Like Mandela dying. When his death was announced, i just remember thinking:hadnt he died ages ago? Like when i was a child? But i shrugged it off, accepted it for what it is, and never gave it another second (until coming across ME) 2. Monopoly man. Its a worldwide played game. My brother dressed up as the dude. With monocles. And no, have no idea who that other character is, that peggy one, because that eas never part of life in Hungary, cant have got it mixed up. 3. Mona Lisa. I distinctly remember my mom telling me about that non-existent smile. We had huge picture books of many artists, Leonardo Da Vinci being one of them, and i remember looking at this picture of the painting, which took up the whole page, and my mum going like: look away, then take a quick glance of her, then look away, it kinda seems like she has a hint of a smile. Now look at her and study her expression. Now she does not smile. I was amazed, and very proud when asked about it at art class i was the only one who knew this, got a massive thumbs up from my teacher. She showed the whole class the exact same way how she does-or doesnt smile. Now my brain is just, cannot take the new way... 3. The moon landing. The first book i read 100 times word by word was a Hungarian book about astronomy made for kids. In the eighties as a small kid i was mesmerised by it. And i remember asking my dad how came that we'd only ever been to the moon once, like in 2 decades? He

said that it was too expensive and the moon probably wasn't that exciting, and some people doubt even that one landing. Even as a grown-up it came up in many conversations like in the early 21st century, how it seemed fishy that nothing happened since that one moonlanding. Then boom, in my late thirties, still very interested in anything space-wise, I learnt about the other successful missions. Like wtf??? There a few others which kinda struck me, like 'mirror-mirror'- which is exactly the way it had been translated to Hungarian. 'Tukrom-tukrom'. Kit-Kat also, Curious George with a tail, pikachu with the black detail.... But these are only weird since knowing about ME. But the ones above I truly felt the world had gone crazy around me. And I felt comforted when learning about ME and other people from all over the world matching my memories. Sorry for my poor English and the typos, I'm rushing with this, but thanks for your theory, it makes perfect sense to me :-)

2

u/AnarZaram avatar

AnarZaram

OP

•

4y ago

Thank you very much for your comment. Your English is great, I love to hear the perspective of someone from Hungary. As someone from America, it makes me happy to hear my ideas are taken seriously around the globe :)

2

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6d ago

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The Mandela Effect Is Freaking Me Out... Why Do So Many People Remember It WRONG?

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1y ago

The Mandela Effect Is Freaking Me Out... Why Do So Many People Remember It WRONG?

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Are there any more recent examples of the Mandela Effect?

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9mo ago

Are there any more recent examples of the Mandela Effect?

37 upvotes · 226 comments

Mandela Effect Realisation

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

7mo ago

Mandela Effect Realisation

110 upvotes · 489 comments

Mandela Effect of the Year 2024

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

1y ago

Mandela Effect of the Year 2024

r/MandelaEffect - Mandela Effect of the Year 2024

npr

80 upvotes · 223 comments

If any, which Mandela effect has been proven wrong?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

8mo ago

If any, which Mandela effect has been proven wrong?

113 upvotes · 635 comments

The Mandela Effect Explained (Using Psychology & Logic)

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7y ago

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r/MandelaEffect - Discussions with the fam about the Mandela Effect

153 upvotes · 377 comments

What's A Mandela Effect You Were Never Effectuated By?

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8mo ago

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122 upvotes · 350 comments

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18d ago

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has there ever been a mandela effect that ended up being true? i might have one

r/MandelaEffect icon

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•

6mo ago

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Mandela Effect - World map of the old timeline compare : r/Retconned

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r/Retconned icon

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r/Retconned

•

6y ago

google-gmail

Mandela Effect - World map of the old timeline compare

The timeline is always changing! but these are changes in the timeline for at least 10-15 years...

And the changes keep happening every day!!!

All you have to do is look at the map on coastlines around the world and at some point you will notice changes.

World map of the old timeline:

r/Retconned - Mandela Effect
Mandela Effect

The world map from the new timeline:

r/Retconned - Mandela Effect
Mandela Effect

8

•

13

Comments Section

[deleted]

•

6y ago

Well Australia is a little bit butchered

1

u/TeaPartySon avatar

TeaPartySon

•

6y ago

We are on an earlier smaller earth hence the melted Antarctica and missing Arctica

6

AdPuzzleheaded9534

•

2y ago

Many people concur. It seems these earths are younger, hence why south america is closer to Africa; it hasn't shifted to the left as much after Pangea separated.

1

u/Holdontomind avatar

Holdontomind

•

6y ago

Its hard to just Edit the map like that. Old earth was much bigger. So both new Zealand and Australia are still to close to Asia. And also there are so many changes that when ever someone attempts this its not even close to including all changes. Like Europe is untouched for example. Denmark never used to be jamed between Sweden and Norway.

2

u/Ashyo-z avatar

Ashyo-z

•

3y ago

I always remembered Austria being tiny in the middle of Spain, France and Germany

1

[deleted]

•

1y ago

As a geography nerd,the old timeline looks so wrong

2

u/FiveNightsAtAyanos avatar
FiveNightsAtAyanos

•

6y ago

I always remembered it as the second picture?

1

u/Graezzonn avatar
Graezzonn

•

6y ago

Well this supports the theory that the timeline is collapsing. In relation to similar timelines, this timeline has been collapsing for slightly over 15 years. Things will continue to increase in "oddity," until the timeline is completely destroyed. Just a thought.

6

u/Ayseena avatar
Ayseena

•

6y ago

Im not yet familiar with this theory. What is causing this timeline to collapse? And how is a collapsing of the timeline able to change geography?

2

u/Graezzonn avatar
Graezzonn

•

6y ago

Honestly, I'm not entirely sure on either of those. I'll get back to you if I find something.

4

u/Top_Preparation_5407 avatar
Top_Preparation_5407

•

3mo ago

Well I don't know who created the two images but I appreciate it very much. In the first 50 years of my life Cuba was a tiny Island and Havana was directly below Miami. Now it's below Tampa and it's the same size as Florida only horizontal nearly choking off the Gulf of America. South America was directly below North America but in this reality there's nothing but open ocean. Alaska used to be far away from Russia but now you can probably hit it with a baseball. Australia was never close to Papua New Guinea but now they're almost touching. New Zealand shifted to its position, etc. but both maps are correct. There has been no changes. They're just two different maps from two different realities. I know I'm not suffering from some mental disorder or from false memories like the current reality would insist on claiming. I know what I know I remember what I remember. I spent 50 years learning the top map. I excelled in geography and traveled the world. You can only try to imagine my shock and my horror to find out that all the world's maps have changed drastically. It was the first Mandela effect I noticed. Eventually there were dozens or hundreds of other Mandela effects that were disturbing. This was 9 or 10 years ago and the trauma has kind of wore off. Sadly, I've had to reconcile with the fact that I was given a one-way ticket and exiled here to this reality. My family members look the same but they don't act the same. They used to be warm affectionate loving and always laughing and happy. Now they don't have any of those characteristics. Cold and impersonal, lacking any concern or interest in me, never any laughing in the household. Personalities are different. Like doppelgangers. Since I have lived several years in both I feel qualified to say that the first reality I came from

was much better. Especially the population. I've nicknamed this place planet crazy. That's a personal bias. It's heartbreaking cuz I want to go back but I can't. My only suspicion is that CERN caused it to happen. Since there's been a cover-up I suspect it was a unintentional side effect of their crazy experiments. The first year or two I would say look at all these changes from Looney Toons, Coca-Cola logo, and Ford logo to the condition of the pyramids, and world geography. After a while I've come to realize that nothing has changed. This is the way this reality has always been. I even looked at photographs of the interior of the Titanic before it sank and there was a photograph of the gymnasium and I noticed on the wall in the background of map of the world that matches the current map. So in this reality there have been no changes. What really changed was my location. From one reality into another. And I used to say well that's kind of cuckoo but there are a few thousand other people out there like me with the exact same details in their memory. Many of them still have physical residual evidence. Like old TV listings with Joel Olsteen, and sex IN the city. I wish we could get together and have a class action lawsuit against CERN. Who else would have the technology to cause something like that to happen? Their technology is probably 100 years ahead of what we are led to believe. I live in house with children and grandchildren but I'm alone because they won't have anything to do with me. I'm just a piece of furniture. It's their natural instinct. They know I'm a stranger they just don't understand it but I think I do. Of course I've never spoken to them about any of this. How could it ever be profitable to do so? I've always had a discerning spirit and I always try to observe everything even the mundane and unimportant things that most people never notice. But no I would never dare speak of any of this to my family members. Not after I recognized all the differences in their personalities. Just a big red flag told me to keep my mouth shut.

1

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r/MandelaEffect icon

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•

8y ago

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5 upvotes · 119 comments

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•

9y ago

I think I found the old world map

14 upvotes · 40 comments

I found a "strange" world map in an old Turkish movie

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r/MandelaEffect

•

6y ago

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137 upvotes · 141 comments

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•

7mo ago

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•

6mo ago
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r/TheArcana - The World Map
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Take a look at the world map
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•

9y ago
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8 upvotes · 90 comments
My interpretation of a world map from 1984
r/1984

•

3mo ago
My interpretation of a world map from 1984
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Help me date this world map. I narrowed the date from 16 december 1971 to 30 april 1975.
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r/datemymap

•

3mo ago
Help me date this world map. I narrowed the date from 16 december 1971 to 30 april 1975.
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10
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•

8mo ago
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12
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r/vexillologycirclejerk icon
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•

7mo ago
I got a world map that says it's updated in 2025... Are the flags really right?
r/vexillologycirclejerk - I got a world map that says it's updated in 2025...
Are the flags really right?
12
178 upvotes · 38 comments
Is there a version of this map without the globe?
r/PossibleHistory icon
r/PossibleHistory

•

3mo ago
Is there a version of this map without the globe?
r/PossibleHistory - Is there a version of this map without the globe?

2

24 upvotes · 12 comments

If the map of the Earth looked like this, how would history change?

r/PossibleHistory icon

r/PossibleHistory

•

6mo ago

If the map of the Earth looked like this, how would history change?

r/PossibleHistory - If the map of the Earth looked like this, how would history change?

42 upvotes · 15 comments

When did the world map change?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

8y ago

When did the world map change?

9 upvotes · 134 comments

Imagine if the world map were still like this 🤪

r/teenagers icon

r/teenagers

•

12d ago

Imagine if the world map were still like this 🤪

r/teenagers - Imagine if the world map were still like this 🤪

3 upvotes · 4 comments

🌐 A 1515 World Map that Shows the New World – but Doesn't Call It "America"

r/geography icon

r/geography

•

2mo ago

🌐 A 1515 World Map that Shows the New World – but Doesn't Call It "America"

r/geography - 🌐 A 1515 World Map that Shows the New World – but Doesn't Call It "America"

284 upvotes · 50 comments

The world map in the year 2000

r/redduskmod icon

r/redduskmod

•

6mo ago

The world map in the year 2000

r/redduskmod - The world map in the year 2000

3

259 upvotes · 7 comments

'Look at a World Map"

r/ShitAmericansSay icon

r/ShitAmericansSay

•

3mo ago

'Look at a World Map"

r/ShitAmericansSay - 'Look at a World Map"

5

421 upvotes · 95 comments

What is a map that, if it were widely seen, would fundamentally change people's perception of the world?

r/geography icon

r/geography

•

5mo ago

What is a map that, if it were widely seen, would fundamentally change people's perception of the world?

r/geography - What is a map that, if it were widely seen, would fundamentally change people's perception of the world?

1.2K upvotes · 70 comments

Time to update the world map

r/IndianDankMemes icon
r/IndianDankMemes

•

8mo ago

Time to update the world map

r/IndianDankMemes - Time to update the world map

1.2K upvotes · 38 comments

This was the map of the world I saw on the news in a dream recently

r/somnicartography

•

5mo ago

This was the map of the world I saw on the news in a dream recently

r/somnicartography - This was the map of the world I saw on the news in a dream recently

267 upvotes · 10 comments

I made this map for anyone interested in trends and history

r/wolves icon

r/wolves

•

2mo ago

I made this map for anyone interested in trends and history

r/wolves - I made this map for anyone interested in trends and history

177 upvotes · 13 comments

What does this map indicate? Hint because it's very niche: it's film-related.

r/RedactedCharts icon

r/RedactedCharts

•

1mo ago

What does this map indicate? Hint because it's very niche: it's film-related.

r/RedactedCharts - What does this map indicate? Hint because it's very niche: it's film-related.

241 upvotes · 87 comments

The World Map By Memory.

r/MapsWithoutNZ icon

r/MapsWithoutNZ

•

5mo ago

The World Map By Memory.

r/MapsWithoutNZ - The World Map By Memory.

2

254 upvotes · 35 comments

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When did the Mandela Effect begin? : r/MandelaEffect

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•

3y ago
mythxical

When did the Mandela Effect begin?
So, if the Mandela Effect is the result of some kind of multiverse transference, does anyone know when it actually happened? I've heard it's tied to the LHC, just curious if that's still thought to be the source.

5

•

82
Comments Section
[deleted]

•

3y ago
When 80s and 90s kids turned 30.

22

u/SeoulGalmegi avatar
SeoulGalmegi

•

3y ago
When 80s and 90s kids turned 30.

Right. And the ease with which they could both look up and share aspects of their childhood online.

Other generations either don't discover their mistaken memories from childhood so easily or were not able to have them 'confirmed' and strengthened by others agreeing.

It seems like a perfect storm.

4

Weekly_Signal6481

•

3y ago
when Nelson Mandela didn't die in the 80s

15

robertluke

•

3y ago
coincidentally around the same time as the internet, you know the abundance of information.

23

u/CardOfTheRings avatar
CardOfTheRings

•

3y ago
Hmm I wonder why.

Maybe the lizard people edit websites to make pikachus tail yellow to make me look stupid.

The only way I could be incorrect about trivia is when there is a global conspiracy about it.

12

u/Welpe avatar

Welpe

•

3y ago

Could my memory be flawed? No, it's the entire universe that is wrong!

5

1 more reply

MajorHymen

•

3y ago

Well I suppose you'd say it started when it was named. Which was I believe when Nelson Mandela died. A lot of people were surprised because they thought he had already died in prison. The effect being many people have vivid memories of news reports for his prison death/funerals. So when he "really" died being a free man would be when the effect started or was at least named

7

[deleted]

•

3y ago

The name was coined years before his death

3

[deleted]

•

3y ago

Mtoastyo

•

3y ago

It didn't begin. It was discovered.

7

Rfg711

•

3y ago

I mean there's no evidence it has anything to do with any multiverse, so how would we know

17

EpicJourneyMan

•

3y ago

I've been actively observing the phenomenon since 2016 and there really are a few major consistencies that have mostly proven out since.

There is a steep drop off of things that have a Mandela Effect relating to them regarding things that that were created or came into existence after 1998, with only a dozen or so afterward - and none after 2009...implying that 2009 is a cutoff date for things to generate an Effect.

The earliest reported incidents of people experiencing the Effect described in

this community are from the 1980s before it had a name, with an uptick in the 1990s when a lot of people noticed the Berenstain Bears.

The vast majority of reported Effects are from things that were well known in popular culture over a 25 year span from 1970-1995.

I don't know what these observations point to but they seem to be usable data points.

4
RobotArmsApts

•

3y ago

The effect is old, we just have a name for it now. How old exactly? That's hard to pin down. It's older than its name though.

14
u/Ginger_Tea avatar
Ginger_Tea

•

3y ago

When was cancer discovered?

How many centuries was it killing people before it was given a name?

My point?

The effect is old, the name given to it is new. If it had not been Neil's son Many Delia, it would have been called something else.

I don't think the bears would take off globally, I would not watch a video on the effect named after the stain bears. I would just assume it was a nostalgia channel talking about a book series that never made it to my school library when I was the right age, or it didn't come to the UK till I was too old.

So I would skip it as u would a video about barbie dolls.

But "did you know he never said play it again Sam was not spoken?" I knew this in the 90s.

Never saw the film, knew the quote, but my dad brought it up some time after 96, cos it was in a specific house when I learned this fact, and others.

7

1 more reply
u/maneff2000 avatar
maneff2000

•

3y ago

LHC/ particle colliders are a top theory for mandela effect. There is just too many interesting details to ignore. Though I think lhc could be a contributor to what we experience. I don't think it is the only cause.

This is my comment from another post asking a similar question.

"I believe these kind of blips always existed and can occur naturally. All over the world there are areas of heightened electromagnetic energy. I think this phenomenon could be connected with that. My thought process is what we have been experiencing the past several years is a heightened level of that due to human engagement in things we have no business messing with.

It's difficult to pinpoint things like this prior to the internet. Especially as the term mandela effect wasn't invented yet. Even terms like quantum anomalies

mostly likely wouldn't have been used by the average person. I imagine if things like that were noticed they were attributed to some kind of local lore.

In previous years I'm sure many people were afraid to speak up if they did notice something. Depending on the time and place. An individual could have been publically shunned, institutionalized or killed. For voicing such things. I'm sure there are some historical documentations of what we call mandela effect. But it would be listed under an obscure label. Perhaps the Victorians would have titled mandela effects as "curiosities" or "oddities".

I don't know when it was initially noticed. But sometime between the 1960s-1990s people noticed the Bolton Dinosaur was missing from the museum. The Dick Cavett Show glitch happened in the 1970s. "Castle in the Sky" glitch happened in 1980s Japan. Ray Bradbury's 1952 short story "A Sound of Thunder". Has to do with timeline changes caused by time travel. I read it free online. Phillip K Dick in 1977 talking about computer simulation, deja vu and "mandela effect" in so many words. You can watch the whole thing but starting at 3:35 sums it up."

<https://youtu.be/jnrj81c0aqc>

4
mbd34

•
3y ago
Common misconceptions have always existed. I'm not sure when exactly people started attributing them to something spooky.

6
u/Zeervreemd avatar
Zeervreemd

•
3y ago
I think it's a normal/ natural part of this "reality" and thus it always existed.

2

18 more replies
u/CardOfTheRings avatar
CardOfTheRings

•
3y ago
It started being popularized when people had access to information that proved their incorrect assumptions wrong. Basically for most people once we had search engines and smart phones where we could google 'does pikachu have a black tail', 'how to spell fruit loops' and other minor details that people just had wrong but were never challenged before.

4
PropertyofChrist

•
3y ago
Since we don't really know what it is - or what caused it, I don't think we can pinpoint the year it began.

If Time is being manipulated, then the ME could have started anytime. We would only notice changes in the "now".

Pay no attention to the foul-mouthed naysayers. They are obviously unaffected, and simply find pleasure in being mean, while pretending to know the answers to mysteries they don't even see.

Orbeyebrainchild

•

3y ago



2

[deleted]

•

3y ago

Perhaps there was no beginning? It just always has been, and we only stumbled across the phenomena because of being so connected. IdK. In the great words of Doctor Who....

' People assume time is a strict progression of cause to effect, but it's more like a big ball of wibbly-wobbly, timey wimey stuff.'

2

u/Historical_Safe_4023 avatar

Historical_Safe_4023

•

3y ago

When everyone thought Nelson Mandela was dead for years, then he wasn't.

1

u/WillingnessFast927 avatar

WillingnessFast927

•

2y ago

So interestingly quantum computing started around the time the Mandela Effect was discovered. Possibly a connection?

1

mythxical

OP

•

2y ago

That was my thought that prompted the question.

1

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r/MandelaEffect

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4y ago

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24 upvotes · 25 comments

I'm convinced most, if not every Mandela effect has a common reason why it was misinterpreted

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r/MandelaEffect

•

9mo ago

I'm convinced most, if not every Mandela effect has a common reason why it was misinterpreted

r/MandelaEffect - I'm convinced most, if not every Mandela effect has a common reason why it was misinterpreted

275 upvotes · 394 comments

What are some examples of Mandela Effect that you know of?

r/AskWomenNoCensor icon

r/AskWomenNoCensor

•

1y ago

What are some examples of Mandela Effect that you know of?

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r/MandelaEffect

•

9mo ago

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r/MandelaEffect

•

5mo ago

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5 upvotes · 137 comments

Do you think the Mandela effect is genuinely a shift in parallel universes? Or just a misremembering?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

2y ago

Do you think the Mandela effect is genuinely a shift in parallel universes? Or just a misremembering?

r/MandelaEffect - Do you think the Mandela effect is genuinely a shift in parallel universes? Or just a misremembering?

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1y ago

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8mo ago

What's A Mandela Effect You Were Never Effected By?

122 upvotes · 350 comments

Does anyone think the Mandela Effect is "Real"

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

8mo ago

Does anyone think the Mandela Effect is "Real"

18 upvotes · 340 comments

How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

2mo ago

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r/MandelaEffect - How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?

youtube

8 comments

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r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

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1y ago

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4mo ago

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r/MandelaEffect icon

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19 upvotes · 244 comments

If any, which Mandela effect has been proven wrong?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

8mo ago

If any, which Mandela effect has been proven wrong?

113 upvotes · 635 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-04)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

26d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-04)

5 upvotes · 150 comments

A theory about the Mandela Effect - Is Time "real"?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

3y ago

A theory about the Mandela Effect - Is Time "real"?

22 upvotes · 40 comments

The phrase "Mandela Effect" was coined in 2009. The C.E.R.N partical accelerator was first turned on in 2008. Is this a coincidence or is it the reason we have Mandela Effects?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

1y ago

The phrase "Mandela Effect" was coined in 2009. The C.E.R.N particle accelerator was first turned on in 2008. Is this a coincidence or is it the reason we have Mandela Effects?

50 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-08)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

22d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-08)

10 upvotes · 130 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-20)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

10d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-20)

112 comments

Are there any more recent examples of the Mandela Effect?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

9mo ago

Are there any more recent examples of the Mandela Effect?

37 upvotes · 226 comments

has there ever been a mandela effect that ended up being true? i might have one

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

6mo ago

has there ever been a mandela effect that ended up being true? i might have one

4 upvotes · 249 comments

What are the biggest Mandela Effect events?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

10mo ago

What are the biggest Mandela Effect events?

66 upvotes · 301 comments

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All time
Mandela effects and children
r/MandelaEffect icon
r/MandelaEffect

.

12d ago
Mandela effects and children
If any parents are telling their kids that their still malleable and incorrect memories are due to "different timelines" ...
4 votes·67 comments
Take that Mandela effect ...
r/90s_kid icon
r/90s_kid

.

5mo ago
Take that Mandela effect ...
I have my old books from the 80s and they say Berenstain, so ...
422 votes·36 comments
Take that Mandela effect ...
90's kid, major Mandela Effects I personally remember
r/Retconned icon
r/Retconned

.

2y ago
90's kid, major Mandela Effects I personally remember
Not to get downvoted/harassed (I know this is reddit) but I was a really bright kid.
274 votes·413 comments
90's Mandela Effect? Help finding a show!
r/90s icon
r/90s

.

9h ago
90's Mandela Effect? Help finding a show!
3 votes·16 comments
Does the Mandela Effect only pertain to people who grew up in the 90's?
r/MandelaEffect icon
r/MandelaEffect

.

7y ago
Does the Mandela Effect only pertain to people who grew up in the 90's?
It's also relevant to note that The Mandela Effect was literally named for the huge number of people (mainly adults at the time) who remember Nelson Mandela dying in the 1980s as opposed to 2013, which also suggests it didn't start in the 90s.
11 votes·123 comments
Mandela Effect? Help finding a show!
r/nostalgia icon
r/nostalgia

.

8h ago

Mandela Effect? Help finding a show!

21 votes · 13 comments

This is a real one for folks who remember the 90's (or don't). Please help me figure it out

[r/MandelaEffect icon](#)

[r/MandelaEffect](#)

•

5y ago

This is a real one for folks who remember the 90's (or don't). Please help me figure it out

1 vote · 6 comments

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Mandela effects and children : [r/MandelaEffect](#)

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[r/MandelaEffect](#)

•

12d ago

[KateGladstone](#)

Mandela effects and children

I don't know what tag to put this under, so I'm picking the only tag whose meaning I don't know, and hoping it fits.

This is a question for Mandela Effect experiencers who are parents or teachers. When you are talking with a child about something that both of you have learned or experienced, and the child remembers it differently from the way that you remember that, do you believe that your child's memory is valid and from a different timeline? For instance: let's say you've been teaching your child/your student something that you want him or her to remember (it could be anything: multiplication tables, Bible verses, historical events, or anything) and the next day, they remember it differently from what you've been teaching them. (an example could be that You're teaching them to count all the way to 1000, but the next day when you check out it's going, they start counting and they tell you that 1000 is the number right after 109. When you tell them that this isn't what you told them, they say that this is the way they remember you telling them.) Does that mean that their memory is true but it's just from a different universe?

4

•

67

[Comments Section](#)

[u/KyleDutcher avatar](#)

[KyleDutcher](#)

•

12d ago

This post, and the comments, demonstrate why supposed "anchor memories" are just as prone to errors/inaccuracy, as are any other memories...

22

[u/GregGoodell_Official avatar](#)

[GregGoodell_Official](#)

•

12d ago
Absolutely! 👍

9
u/dunder_mufflinz avatar
dunder_mufflinz

•
12d ago
If any parents are telling their kids that their still malleable and incorrect memories are due to "different timelines" ... it should be considered psychological abuse.

21
u/KateGladstone avatar
KateGladstone
OP

•
11d ago
Adults' memories, too, are frequently malleable and incorrect. See the research on this:

/1/ <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/02/160209161809.htm>

/2/ <https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/story?id=98195&page=1>

/3/ <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/911-memory-accuracy/>

Therefore, just as an adult does not (or should not) tell children that malleable and incorrect memories are truths from another timeline, perhaps adults should not tell one another that this is so.

12
PM-me-your-knees-pls

•
9d ago
That is a rather convoluted way of making your point. Maximum points for effort though.

2

3 more replies
u/CopperCreator3388 avatar
CopperCreator3388

•
12d ago
Attention span makes a difference. They may retain only parts of the conversation.

9
u/GregGoodell_Official avatar
GregGoodell_Official

•
12d ago
Children often perceive things differently due to a lack of knowledge and less developed understanding and perception of the world around them. A child saying 'Sister left home and mommy and daddy are sad' could mean 'My sister is an alcoholic and went to jail and rehab' in the real world. Perception without knowledge is the primary ingredient of Mandela Effects and general misconception by and large.

u/TifaYuhara avatar
TifaYuhara

•

11d ago

A child saying 'Sister left home and mommy and daddy are sad'.

Could also mean that she left for college or is off on a trip for a week.

6

u/GregGoodell_Official avatar
GregGoodell_Official

•

11d ago

Yes. The point is that the child only has a piece of the information. Most of these Mandela Effects are generated by people that just have a piece of the information and egregiously assume that they 'know' something that they don't actually know.

7

11 more replies
Disaster-Bee

•

12d ago

Most folks who work in early childhood education are well learned in the way that children's brains develop, and how difficult memory development can be from toddlerhood well into childhood. The younger the child, the less their memory skills have developed, and the more disorganized their memory formation and recall is. And the easier it is for the young brain to distinguish genuine memory from 'enforced memory' - talking about a thing a lot, no matter if it's real or not, will 'reenforce' the idea it's a memory. Kids need a lot of help with actually figuring out memory, and what's a real memory vs an imagined or reenforced memory. This is why it's stressed, at least in early childhood education, to discuss facts frequently and engage in responsive conversations about memories, helping young children separate actual memory from imagined/reenforced memories.

I don't have the time or energy to lay out all the details of how memory develops in growing children, but there's a great deal of written material and educational videos readily available to look into. But the very simple breakdown is children don't have the biological development to make and recall memories the same way as adults, and it's extremely easy for memories to get confused. So what this means is is a still-developing brain that doesn't fully understand how memory works is still trying to figure out how memory works, and gets confused.

7

u/KateGladstone avatar
KateGladstone
OP

•

11d ago

When that happens, and the confused child grows up with that confused foundation firmly in place, might the resulting adult find the Mandela effect particularly easy to believe?

3

barryvon

•

12d ago

why does everyone have so much faith in this "different universe " idea?

18

0xCODEBABE

•

12d ago

you see it's more probable that people are "skipping between universes" than that they misremembered minor things.

14

u/KateGladstone avatar

KateGladstone

OP

•

11d ago

If I had to hire people for any job, I would NOT willingly or knowingly hire someone who believed that his/her own memory was an absolute: that his/her own recollections and beliefs were unquestionable, that they more reliably stable than the entire physical universe. How could such a person be trusted to deal honestly with physical documentation or evidence of any kind?

5

30 more replies

Nejfelt

•

12d ago

It's the new superstition coupled with arrogance and ignorance.

Ever since camera phones, it's been harder to hand wave away the lack of evidence of ghosts, UFOs, the Loch Ness Monster, Bigfoot.

So let's glom onto something that reality itself can't disprove because it's always changing!

And look how special I am, I remember the correct timeline!

17

u/kbradero avatar

kbradero

•

12d ago

you may want to read (or hear its audiobook version) of this <https://www.davidddeutsch.org.uk/books/the-fabric-of-reality/>

-2

4 more replies

u/KateGladstone avatar

KateGladstone

OP

•

11d ago

Speaking of the Mandela Effect and children ...

I tutor children and teens in school subjects – I've done so for over twenty years – and every so often over all those years, there have been parents who mentioned to me that their kid(s) get/got in trouble with the Sunday School teacher after finding something in the Bible that the Sunday School teacher didn't know about. that some specific part of the Bible was different from what the Sunday school teacher or the pastor had said was there (when the preacher was where the teacher or the pastor was telling the kids to learn that part of the Bible).

Typical incident (I've changed the kid's name) – there was a kid I'll call "Jerry," who was nine at the time I heard the story (but the actual incident had happened when he was seven going on eight.) The Sunday School teacher had been telling them (from memory) about "the lion shall lie down with the lamb." The teacher had written it on the board, with "Isaiah 11:6" after it. Quietly, Jerry pulled out his pocket-sized Bible that he always carried with him (it was a Bible originally owned thirty years earlier by his dead grandpa, who had been a pastor) and he looked it up for himself, because he loved looking up Bible verses and other facts, and once or twice before this time he had noticed the Sunday School teacher and others (even including schoolteachers and pastors) not always quoting things entirely accurately when they were quoting from their recollections without looking it up first. So, when he found "wolf" in Isaiah 11:6, he raised his hand, and the teacher came over, and he showed her "wolf" and asked why she was telling the kids "lion" instead. (NOTE: This is a class where the teacher places great emphasis on quoting the Bible from memory.) The teacher got very, VERY upset, and did the following thing which was witnessed by the other children in the class, and which the teacher herself later stated she had done (when she was discussing the incident, afterwards, with Jerry's parents). What the teacher did was to point with her finger to the word "wolf" in Jerry's Bible, then read out the letters one by one – "w, o, l, f" – and then say: "See, Jerry, that spells 'lion': w, o, l, f." She then picked up her own Bible off the desk, turned in that Bible to Isaiah 11:6, found the same "wolf," and repeated the same performance ("w, o, l, f – spells 'lion': see?") By this time, a lot of the kids were laughing, so she told them that the person they needed to laugh at was Jerry: "If Jerry can't see 'lion' like the rest of us, he really needs to shape up, because the fact that he sees a wrong word and a wrong animal is probably because of the fact that Jerry has autism" – Jerry, in fact, does have this neurological condition. So the kids were laughing at Jerry because of this – and, "one way or another, they still are laughing at him" (this quote is from what the parents told me, a year after the incident, when they were telling me about it to help me understand Jerry better and know a little more about what he has been through in life. They wanted me to understand why Jerry was very afraid of the possibility that other people with authority in his life might also require him to learn and memorize (from their own memory) any "fact" that was not factual, and might also not care to even LOOK at what they were asking him to learn by heart.)

3
u/KateGladstone avatar
KateGladstone
OP
•

6d ago
I suspect that you would not describe as logical any conclusion I reached, unless it was identical to yours – and that you'd conversely describe as logical any conclusion that agreed with yours (irrespective of the process whereby it had been reached).

1
u/KateGladstone avatar
KateGladstone
OP
•

6d ago
I should've expressed myself more precisely. When I said that "the ME cannot be trusted," I meant that it is not possible (for me, anyway) to regard the ME as probable or as having occurred (perhaps because literally any event, anywhere, can you claim to be a new ME or come to have resulted from the ME).

1
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9mo ago

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r/MandelaEffect - I'm convinced most, if not every Mandela effect has a common reason why it was misinterpreted

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4y ago

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r/AskWomenNoCensor

•

1y ago

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1y ago

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3mo ago

Are there any Mandela effects that aren't easily explained?

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What would you say is the craziest Mandela Effect of ALL TIME?

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•

9mo ago

What would you say is the craziest Mandela Effect of ALL TIME?

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•

8mo ago

Does anyone think the Mandela Effect is "Real"

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r/MandelaEffect

•

1y ago

The Mandela Effect Is Freaking Me Out... Why Do So Many People Remember It WRONG?

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r/MandelaEffect

•

8mo ago

If any, which Mandela effect has been proven wrong?

113 upvotes · 635 comments

Mandela Effect Explained
r/MandelaEffect icon
r/MandelaEffect

•

8y ago

Mandela Effect Explained
91 upvotes · 170 comments

Shaggy from Scooby Doo, rehashing Mandela Effects part 2.

r/Retconned icon

r/Retconned

•

8mo ago

Shaggy from Scooby Doo, rehashing Mandela Effects part 2.

r/Retconned - Shaggy from Scooby Doo, rehashing Mandela Effects part 2.

120 upvotes · 49 comments

Which Mandela effect messed your head up the most ?

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r/AskReddit

•

4y ago

Which Mandela effect messed your head up the most ?

14K upvotes · 8.6K comments

The Mandela Effect is real, but not how you think.

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r/MandelaEffect

•

2y ago

The Mandela Effect is real, but not how you think.

25 upvotes · 296 comments

Are there any more recent examples of the Mandela Effect?

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r/MandelaEffect

•

9mo ago

Are there any more recent examples of the Mandela Effect?

37 upvotes · 226 comments

Is there a Mandela Effect subreddit for people that don't subscribe to the bad memory explanation? Basically, a ME sub free of all the arguments?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

2y ago

Is there a Mandela Effect subreddit for people that don't subscribe to the bad memory explanation? Basically, a ME sub free of all the arguments?

22 upvotes · 172 comments

Which Mandela effect freaks you out the most and why?

r/AskReddit icon

r/AskReddit

•

3y ago

Which Mandela effect freaks you out the most and why?

7.8K upvotes · 5.1K comments

How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

2mo ago

How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?

r/MandelaEffect - How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?
youtube

8 comments

What's A Mandela Effect You Were Never Effected By?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

8mo ago

What's A Mandela Effect You Were Never Effected By?

122 upvotes · 350 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-07-25)

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r/MandelaEffect

•

5mo ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-07-25)

5 upvotes · 137 comments

What are some of your favorite mandela effects? (Ones that you are 100% convinced changed)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

2y ago

What are some of your favorite mandela effects? (Ones that you are 100% convinced changed)

249 upvotes · 1.1K comments

Discussions with the fam about the Mandela Effect

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r/MandelaEffect

•

7mo ago

Discussions with the fam about the Mandela Effect

r/MandelaEffect - Discussions with the fam about the Mandela Effect

153 upvotes · 377 comments

Are there any popular Indian Mandela Effects?

r/india icon

r/india

•

2y ago

Are there any popular Indian Mandela Effects?

661 upvotes · 285 comments

Mandela Effect of the Year 2024

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

1y ago

Mandela Effect of the Year 2024

r/MandelaEffect - Mandela Effect of the Year 2024

npr

80 upvotes · 223 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-24)

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r/MandelaEffect

•

6d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-24)

13 upvotes · 166 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2024-07-18)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

1y ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2024-07-18)

21 upvotes · 124 comments

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The Mandela Effect is a natural result of timelines merging : r/MandelaEffect

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•

4y ago
AnarZaram

The Mandela Effect is a natural result of timelines merging
Everyone who believes in the Mandela Effect has their own theory on why it exists. I've seen many point to the LHC, while others dismiss the effect entirely as mass false memories. I would like to posit that the Mandela Effect is actually a natural phenomenon. I believe the true reason the ME occurs is because of the fractal nature of spacetime.

To help facilitate a better picture of what this truly means, let us examine spacetime as it is presented in string theory. Imagine that all the possible timelines for all pieces of matter were stretched out in strings across 3D space. The 'start' of time would be very small, and every frame in which the universe updates would propagate the strings of time further into space. Because of the quantum nature of observation and decision making, every time there are two possible outcomes to a timeline, the timeline must split into two timelines. This results in the overall spacial structure of each timeline to present itself as a fractal tree: one node which splits into two, with every node further dividing infinitely.

Except: what if space wasn't infinitely small? Fractals are still trying to be fully understood by mathematicians around the globe. One of the most frustrating things to wrap your head around is the fact that while the area of a fractal is finite, the perimeter is supposedly infinite. This is because mathematics can subdivide infinitely, so there is never a reason to assume we've hit the 'limit' of subdivision. But space is not a theory; space is real. Energy must have a smallest quantum state it can exist in, and anything smaller than that must not be able to exist. Because of this, every fractal found in nature must necessarily end. The smallest subdivisions of the spacetime fractal are what I believe to be the Mandela Effect.

Picture the very edges of two timelines existing together within a finite space. They have both reached the absolute smallest subdivision of each of their fractal trees, and now both of them want to propagate further into space. Because there is no more room for both timelines to subdivide again, only one timeline can propagate. However, instead of one timeline or the other propagating, I believe the timelines 'merge.' In order to be that close to each other anyway, they must have extremely similar sets of data compiling that universe, and the merging picks the most mundane difference between the two timelines and removes that difference.

People often ask why MEs are mundane, but I believe they have to be in order for a smooth transition between universes. The more that an individual is certain a reality exists, the more likely that reality is going to be the 'main' reality which occurs when the timelines merge. If the president of a faraway country dies and you watch his funeral, but then that funeral becomes mundane and irrelevant to you because of how faraway that country is, you are a more likely transfer to a timeline where that leader still exists, only because it had no bearing on your life. If you spent your entire existence in that country with

that president however, you would find yourself much more firmly in that timeline, and would be shocked to find a huge subset of the world thought your president died earlier.

Anyway, all of this is just a theory. Even if it is right, my personal belief is that the Mandela Effect is just a natural occurrence which is out of our control. Obsessing over it will only lead to insanity, but denying its existence is becoming harder and harder as more people share their own experiences. Maybe we do all have false memories and are just too proud to admit it. But there's nothing wrong with taking the time to theorize something more.

25

.

91

Comments Section

kulalolk

•

4y ago

Claiming MEs are due to misremembering or "false memories" is not dismissive. Everyone has their own theories, just as you said. Why do you get to say it's a "natural result of timelines merging", when that's just your theory, but others who's theory is fallible human memory, are "being dismissive"?

You've shown bias and torn down those who believe differently than you in the first two sentences.

Your theory is full of shit. Too many "what if's".

4

u/DukeboxHiro avatar

DukeboxHiro

•

4y ago

I think you're reading a context that OP didn't intend with the word "dismiss". I didn't infer it as that confrontational.

6

kulalolk

•

4y ago

"While others dismiss the effect entirely as mass false memories" appears to demean those who's theories revolve around memory. Clearly you and I think differently. It's condescending.

People here don't "dismiss" it as "mass false memories". It's just their own theory, just like OPs theory is merging timelines. It's incredibly demeaning that OPs unproven, unverifiable, science fiction theory is an acceptable theory (at least in their eyes), but the known, studied, and scientifically verified malleability of the human memory is thrown away as dismissive. It's a punch in the gut.

This subreddit has a conspiracy/science fiction voice that calls people who think MEs are memory related, skeptics. For all I know, it's the conspiracy people that are the skeptics. Playing fantasy armchair scientist, trying to discover multiverses and alternate timelines that theoretical physicists have yet to understand, and using that absurd, unsubstantiated theory to explain that's why people remember things differently. All the while refusing to accept peer-reviewed human memory research papers that prove long term memories can be subconsciously "edited" or even "corrupted", overwriting existing memories with other information.

You never see a "misremembering" or "false memory" from last week on this

subreddit, it's always a "vivid memory" or someone "distinctly remembering" an event from years, or even DECADES ago, and they're always incorrect in some way. Example; "i remember Froot Loops being called Fruit Loops." Oh is that so? Where's your proof? "I don't have any, it's just a theory." What's your basis for having this theory? "It's different than it used to be." Right... so, things being "different" somehow, magically, points to unproven, typical science fiction movie theories, and absolutely cannot be the proven faults in human memory. Gotcha.

8

7 more replies
u/thoughtwanderer avatar
thoughtwanderer

•

4y ago

Ok, so all OP said was (before sharing his theories)

others dismiss the effect entirely as mass false memories

You said

Claiming MEs are due to misremembering or "false memories" is not dismissive.

Followed by

You've shown bias and torn down those who believe differently than you in the first two sentences.

Your theory is full of shit. Too many "what if's".

The dictionary definition of "to dismiss" is

to treat as unworthy of serious consideration.

So, exactly who is being dismissive here? ;)

0

entertherematrix

•

4y ago

Because attributing it to fallible human memory ends the discussion, it's the literal definition of dismissive lol

-2

Bowieblackstarflower

•

4y ago

Some people will say stuff like, not on my timeline, which is something that is also dismissive of anything else and ends the discussion.

4

bitofvenom

•

4y ago

Awell. Why not hijack the topic and divert back to 'false memories'.

This is not a topic for you. You believe in the false memories.

What if you are in a christian sub. Would you be upset aswell if people call out the dismissiveness that 'Jesus never existed'?

Because that is what you are doing. Not adding anything to the topic. Just be

upset calling your superior theory of false memory, 'dismissive'. How dare they!

-3

[deleted]

•

4y ago

Most Christians are unwilling to discuss anything that might put their system of beliefs in question. Do you want the same level of discourse from this sub?

2

24 more replies

u/JakeRoberts0601 avatar

JakeRoberts0601

•

3y ago

Its okay. Its going to be okay. The merge was for the better. The light is accessible and we all have the abiltiy to step out of the darkness. Nows the time for unfathomable growth and acceleration.

1

u/helic0n3 avatar

helic0n3

•

4y ago

Problem I have with "big" theories like yours is why does it only result in trivial changes in things like logos or brand names? If universes are merging then changes should be huge.

5

u/throwaway998i avatar

throwaway998i

•

4y ago

Why do you continue to pretend like you've never heard about wordline ME's such as geography, anatomy, and the like? You keep hammering this "trivial changes" narrative as if you have a vested interest in skewing the actual discussion for some bizarre reason. I think it's safe to say your credibility is nonexistent at this point.

5

u/helic0n3 avatar

helic0n3

•

4y ago

Because claiming that stuff like countries or vital organs have moved is clearly absurd. Find me a geographer, native of the countries in question or doctor who agrees. They are widely dismissed and people in this sub just keep going back to Berenstain or cornucopias and the like.

5

24 more replies

3 more replies

undeadblackzero

•

4y ago

<https://youtu.be/dd7BILZcYAY> I recommend the Steins Gate Anime. Interesting Plot. its a tentaquil

0

[deleted]

•

4y ago

But why do things change for people at different times? That lends itself to us moving into different existing timelines.

Excellent post.

-1

u/AnarZaram avatar

AnarZaram

OP

•

4y ago

Thank you.

You raise a very good point. I do think in my OP I implied that the only possible implementation of the Mandela Effect is through a transfer to a newly propagated timeline, but I do believe it is also possible through this theory to transfer to an "existing" timeline. Just because the subdivision of one timeline fractal ends does not necessarily mean that the timeline next to it needs to meet an end at the exact same time. The end result is still the same, with one timeline 'merging' into another timeline, whether that timeline is established or new. And just because a mundane data point may have been erased during the transfer does not necessarily mean that that data point cannot revert during another timeline transfer. If every timeline truly is next to another that it may collapse into when each timeline runs out of finite space to propagate into, that may mean that the same data point needs to oscillate multiple times before reaching a stable end result. Thus, it is entirely possible for entities to experience dual realities multiple times before stabilizing on a 'true' reality.

1

2 more replies

Shaggywaffle

•

4y ago

No matter how smart you try and make it sound, it's still stupid

-1

u/JakeRoberts0601 avatar

JakeRoberts0601

•

3y ago

Its not easy to accept. Some may never, if you do there's immense gratitude and postivity to be found. The timeline shift opened pathways that laid dormant or never existed. Things are going to start changing, rapidly. Buckle up. The corrupt structures of my original timeline will continue to crumble. Higher dimensional beings and immigrants from the cosmos will lift us up. For some, like me, its already happenend. Be well. Find your peace, find the light darkness.will fail.

2

[deleted]

•

4y ago

Dismissive troll

-3

Shaggywaffle

•

4y ago

Or someone with actual brain cells who knows that this is all BS because people can't accept they didn't remember something right.

3

4 more replies

georgeananda

•

4y ago

Thanks. This is one of the better explanation posts I've seen on here.

every time there are two possible outcomes to a timeline, the timeline must split into two timelines.

My mind boggles here as it would seem there would be infinite possibilities each with infinite possibilities with infinite Where does that 'two' come from?

-1

u/DukeboxHiro avatar

DukeboxHiro

•

4y ago

Where does that 'two' come from?

It's a simplification of any possible outcome boiling down to a 50/50 decision - something happened, or didn't. Infinite would be accurate from a wider perspective.

1

Nevereveragain81

•

4y ago

I love this, it just makes sense to me. I have experienced many ME's, as a central european most are irrelevant in my day-to-day life, and some things i would not have even heard about as those never made it across to my country. But a few really hit me hard. Like Mandela dying. When his death was announced, i just remember thinking:hadnt he died ages ago? Like when i was a child? But i shrugged it off, accepted it for what it is, and never gave it another second (until coming across ME) 2. Monopoly man. Its a worldwide played game. My brother dressed up as the dude. With monocles. And no, have no idea who that other character is, that peggy one, because that was never part of life in Hungary, cant have got it mixed up. 3. Mona Lisa. I distinctly remember my mom telling me about that non-existent smile. We had huge picture books of many artists, Leonardo Da Vinci being one of them, and i remember looking at this picture of the painting, which took up the whole page, and my mum going like: look away, then take a quick glance of her, then look away, it kinda seems like she has a hint of a smile. Now look at her and study her expression. Now she does not smile. I was amazed, and very proud when asked about it at art class i was the only one who knew this, got a massive thumbs up from my teacher. She showed the whole class the exact same way how she does-or doesnt smile. Now my brain is just, cannot take the new way... 3. The moon landing. The first book i read 100 times word by word was a Hungarian book about astronomy made for kids. In the eighties as a small kid i was mesmerised by it. And i remember asking my dad how came that we'd only ever been to the moon once, like in 2 decades? He said that it was too expensive and the moon probably wasnt that exciting, and some people doubt even that one landing. Even as a grown-up it came up in many conversations like in the early 21st century, how it seemed fishy that nothing happened since that one moonlanding. Then boom, in my late thirties, still very interested in anything space-wise, i learnt about the other successful missions. Like wtf??? There are a few others which kinda struck me, like 'mirror-mirror'- which

is exactly the way it had been translated to Hungarian. 'Tukrom-tukrom'. Kit-Kat also, Curious George with a tail, pikachu with the black detail... But these are only weird since knowing about ME. But the ones above i truly felt the world had gone crazy around me. And i felt comforted when learning about ME and other people from all over the world matching my memories. Sorry for my poor English and the typos, im rushing with this, but thanks for your theory, it makes perfect sense to me :-)

2

u/AnarZaram avatar

AnarZaram

OP

•

4y ago

Thank you very much for your comment. Your English is great, I love to hear the perspective of someone from Hungary. As someone from America, it makes me happy to hear my ideas are taken seriously around the globe :)

2

goodbeer11

•

4y ago

The people whom claim ME are just false memories are wrong. Anyone with a powerful ME experience (or NDE, DMT/hallucinations, deep meditation, or other unexplainable spiritual experience for that matter) can say for a fact that something very real happened.

Science is always changing. And when you look back at scientific theories, you'll see they changed due to the cultural changes that occurred before the science came up with a new accepted theory which fit into those cultural norms. Science does NOT lead the way, the culture does.

What we are doing here is writing science fiction, in an attempt to understand something much bigger than any of us could ever understand. And that's great. I thank you for the thoughtful effort. In due time, I'm sure the science will come around to explain, and give authority to a new way of looking at the world which ME will fit into. Is it that we live in a giant hive mind, different timelines, a hologram, a simulation, an electric universe? IDK. I do know the accepted theory that the universe was built and runs like a machine was great as we began the Industrial Age, but it is not working as we move towards an age tied into the digital world.

1

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7y ago

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2y ago
rebel_nord

What if the Mandela Effect is the result of time travelers changing timelines?
Discussion.

Could it be that time travel has been discovered, and people are going back in time now and things are changing?

Just talking out interesting theories here. I'm just interested to see what you all think.

0
58
Comments Section
0hpex
•

2y ago
I don't think so. The Mandela phenomenon is interesting, sometimes fascinating, but I can't relate to the feeling of time and reality being shifted or shattered. If I'd ever feel that upset about a fact, I hope I'd take the least extreme route and try to find the answer in the fallacy of the human memory, and nothing else. If my memory isn't at fault then I just learnt it wrong in the first place.

To me, it's 100% a psychological effect, with a big odd tinfoil tail attached to it. It's a phenomenon affecting groups (strong ME) and individuals (weak ME). It's feeling. Group think is especially fascinating, but I rest assured that one thing that unite all (living) people is that we're on the same timeline.

11
pandemicpunk
•

2y ago
Sir embrace the age of absurdism you are in! No rational thinking allowed!! How dare you come with receipts and logic!

2
0hpex
•
2y ago
Let me know when it's all over!

2
[deleted]
•
2y ago
Yeah yeah, I hear you.

BUT, you're not allowed to make complete sense in a world where you have people

completely buying in to the airliner abduction theory, based on one CGI edited video here on Reddit!

4

Ohpex

•

2y ago

I'm sorry, I don't know the rules of this here establishment.

2

saltycathbk

•

2y ago

Bingo

1

Teartheveil

•

2y ago

TimmyOTule

•

2y ago

All right maybe. But why this changes have to be a fucking vowel in the name of a dry radish brand and not something bigger like, idont know, a timeline were the beatles never existed.

8

pandemicpunk

•

2y ago

Who are The Beatles? They were called The Weevills in my timeline.

7

u/Ginger_Tea avatar

Ginger_Tea

•

2y ago

And if it was the cause of every ME and not a cherry picked few, how in the name of Todd would/could a time traveller move all these continents many claim have moved?

2

7 more replies

SameSexDictator

•

2y ago

Why would going back in time be making these changes?

8

u/TifaYuhara avatar

TifaYuhara

•

2y ago

And why would people in a new timeline remember something that never existed?

10

valis010

•

2y ago

To see how it affects the present timeline. They change little things to see how it plays out, without risking major changes that might have devastating consequences for the present time. MEs are tests.

1
SameSexDictator

•

2y ago
You guys sure are an intelligent bunch.

3

3 more replies

8 more replies
thegreypanada39

•

2y ago
The past is changing man!

1
u/bloonshot avatar
bloonshot

•

2y ago
bruh you just misremembered the spelling of froot loops

calm down

2

[deleted]

•

2y ago
u/Odd_Storage_9394 avatar
Odd_Storage_9394

•

2y ago
Y2K, butterfly effect, alternate timeline, Mandela effect

1
u/Spirited_Life_1472 avatar
Spirited_Life_1472

•

2y ago
Or tachyon messages/ warnings from the future? For instance, is the BearnstEIn to BearnstAIn one a warning about AI?

1
CuriousCali

•

2y ago
Or Google is now in charge of our memories.

1
u/Cygnaeus avatar
Cygnaeus

•

2y ago
Why would the time travelers be changing movies and songs, of all things?

1

1 more reply
u/HeroBrine0907 avatar
HeroBrine0907

•

2y ago

It certainly would be if it explained why some people keep their memories. And also if travelling to the past were possible.

0

Illustrious-Tap8861

•

2y ago

Yes I've thought about this. Like, time travel has rippling effects that upset the timespace continuum

0

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4y ago

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r/MandelaEffect icon

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2y ago

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•

3y ago

Odd-Air-2341

Timeline of the Mandela effect

Curious on how far back the Mandela effect can be seen, what's the farthest back someone has noticed the Mandela effect?

45

•

98

Comments Section

jacklord392

•

3y ago

Back in the day, some of the subject matter and similar stuff were contained in urban legends. First time I saw the phrase urban legend used was in a Penthouse magazine article around 1987.

Even farther back it would have been grouped into Fortean lore and the writings of John Keel. However, cannot recall it being described as such, or even given any title at all. Keel described the photo of a Thunderbird/big bird many people saw but no one could locate. Keel's books go back to the 60s at least.

20

u/throwaway998i avatar

throwaway998i

•

3y ago

Philip K. Dick's 1977 speech is a real mind bender...

<https://www.openculture.com/2021/08/hear-philip-k-dicks-famous-metz-speech.html>

18

Maleficent_Hamster10

•

3y ago

Amazing . Thanks!

4

u/CheddyLemon avatar

CheddyLemon

•

3y ago

31:46

"I wish to adlib. We are living in a computer programmed reality and the only clue we have to it is when some variable is changed and some alteration in our reality occurs."

3

KimSmoltzz

•

3y ago

This was a fascinating read, thank you!

2

[deleted]

•

3y ago

I'm sorry but there's no way you seen the "Mandela effect " phrase in 1987.

0

jacklord392

•

3y ago

Never stated that. Reread what I wrote. The first time I heard the phrase urban legend was in 1987.

First time I heard a reference to what is now known as the Mandela Effect was during an Art Bell radio show about 20 years ago, as was also referenced by someone else.

1

Curithir2

•

3y ago

Yep, Charles Fort, Charles Berlitz (Bermuda Triangle), von Daniken got me through the 60s, early 70s. Hey, would Kaspar Hauser be a Glitch, or an Effect?

1

u/Ginger_Tea avatar
Ginger_Tea

•

3y ago

In another thread, someone pointed out that the last name of the main character in around the world in 80 days has always been a bone of contention since it was first published.

Prior to that there may not have been any publicly available written records about how X is now Y, for example the pose of the thinker statue as if you didn't live in the area, it may be decades between you first and second visit.

Before it was given a name, most of the content on this sub was "top ten movie quotes we get wrong part seven" by watch Mojo, I think one was from 2007 so before the date the term was coined.

Back then you would just shrug and go "wow I've been saying it wrong all this time" and would possibly post to r/todayilearned now that sub is a hunting ground for tomorrows ME's like yesterdays newspapers becoming todays fish and chip paper.

27

Maleficent_Hamster10

•

3y ago

Another redditor pointed out to me that Art Bell on the Coast to Coast AM radio show mentioned it as far back as 2001.

I found it mentioned on two different episodes May 2001 and December 2001 where he briefly mentioned some callers talking about a timeline shift or something changing.

Unfortunately I couldnt find an episode of the radio show that was dedicated to that topic .

10

u/KyleDutcher avatar
KyleDutcher

•

3y ago

There weren't any that early, I don't think. Though Art did have an episode of "Midnight in the Desert" in 2015 dedicated to it.

2

strangeweirdnews

•

3y ago

The word dilemma was the first one I ever noticed, before the term Mandela was even coined. Usually spelling effects don't resonate much with me. I noticed dilemma in the early 2000s. And it did throw me off that it was never dilemna.

16

Deep-Sea-4867

•

3y ago

Quite a dil-em-NA?

7

Puggalina

•
3y ago
Oh, I thought it was dilemna!

7
senile_stoat

•
3y ago
In the book "The Ayin" by Gregor Former, it actually mentions the change in the spelling of dilemna to dilemma. (last part of chapter 22, before Epilogue 1) . The book was published 2000.

5
u/NextGenesis88 avatar
NextGenesis88

•
3y ago
I've never heard of dilemma with an NA...

4
NydNugs

•
3y ago
Its a bit like the movie inception. Once the idea is planted your imagination does the rest. And now there is a huge element of social reinforcement on a viral scale. Use google search results over time as an archival method.

4
moschles

•
3y ago
I have multiple independent sources claiming that Mandela Effect was coined by Fiona Broome , when she created a website for it in 2009.

Broome herself was particularly obsessed with a memory of Nelson Mandela dying in prison. Reddit has had a huge impact on the meaning of the term. REddit's impact was to expand "Mandela Effect" to a much larger phenomena, but Broome had specifically meant it to refer to Mandela's alleged death.

3
Butterflyeffect87024

•
3y ago
2001 is when someone told me that the Berenstain Bears changed. Since then, noticed many things. All the common pop culture things, plus in my universe, the Lindbergh baby was a cold case...

14
u/skimbeeblegofast avatar
skimbeeblegofast

•
3y ago
Same here. Was informed Berenstain wasnt stein in about 2000. But these were called "mind benders", not universal swapping. What do you mean your universe? How would ones universe change? I havent thought of this question until now, but how and why would one "swap universes"?

3
u/NextGenesis88 avatar
NextGenesis88

•
3y ago

That was my first memory of seeing the movie in my movie rack as a kid. Trying to pronounce it as Berenstain because I noticed it didn't sound as people were saying the name which I have heard my family mention. So it's never been stein to me other than when it's being spoken. Very distinct memory that never has gone away.

3

3 more replies

1 more reply

Ncfetcho

•

3y ago

I was told back in the 90s by Jehovah's witnesses that it was the wolf and the lamb. I assumed it was a translation thing since they had their own Bible. It was not.

4

Ill-Psychology9302

•

3y ago

My Grandmother was a JW and I remember the cover on one of the JW books had a drawing of the lion and the lamb. This was the late 60's or early 70's.

3

1 more reply

1 more reply

EpicJourneyMan

•

3y ago

In it's current form?

Since 1987, I can't find any "mass groups of people" before then.

I suspect it's always been going on...but my research doesn't show that, and I'm more than a little disturbed by the fact that there really does seem to be a window in which it occurred that runs from 1987-2019.

Sure, there might be some outliers - but this 22 year window really seems to hold up in 99% of the cases.

To be clear, there are many Effects that ORIGINATE outside of that window but it really does seem to be that people only first recognized them within it.

3

u/KyleDutcher avatar

KyleDutcher

•

3y ago

There are newspaper articles from as early as 1909 that discuss the widespread belief that Isaiah 11:6 said Lion/Lamb, when it said Wolf and lamb back then.

Also, the whole "Luke I am your father" was a known misquote since shortly after the film came out (1980)

7

Ncfetcho

•

3y ago

I commented on this! It was the 90s when the witnesses showed me it was wolf. I grew up in the 70s with all those religious pictures of lions and lambs. I figured it was just their Bible. It was not.

2

1 more reply

15 more replies

Bowieblackstarflower

•

3y ago

What happened in 1987?

3

4 more replies

moschles

•

3y ago

A bomb went off in a train station in Italy on August 1980. Many people remembered the Bologna bomb stopping the large clock by some mechanical or electrical failure, and that to commemorate the victims, the clock was left that way.

That was never true.

Nevertheless, so many local people believed this that the city government went ahead and stopped said clock decades later to match people's (false) memory.

They did a poll. 92% of respondents remembered it wrong. That's a huge number.

One well-documented example of shared false memories comes from a 2010 study that examined people familiar with the clock at Bologna Centrale railway station, which was damaged in the Bologna massacre bombing in August 1980. In the study, 92% of respondents falsely remembered the clock had remained stopped since the bombing when, in fact, the clock was repaired shortly after the attack. Years later the clock was again stopped and set to the time of the bombing, in observance and commemoration of the bombing.

2

13 more replies

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Hear Philip K. Dick's Famous Metz Speech: "If You Find this World Bad, You Should See Some of the Others" (1977)
in Literature, Philosophy, Sci Fi | August 20th, 2021 1 Comment

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A newspaper article about this speech could well be titled: AUTHOR CLAIMS TO HAVE SEEN GOD BUT CAN'T GIVE ACCOUNT OF WHAT HE SAW. – PKD

In 1977, cult writer Philip K. Dick arrived at a science fiction convention in Metz, France to deliver a speech called, "If You Find this World Bad, You Should See Some of the Others." (Read an edited transcript [here](#).) The audience would leave bewildered, mystified. His talk ranged widely across such topics as cosmological time, the possibility of the universe as a computer simulation, the experience of déjà vu, and the oppressive regime of Richard Nixon. It would become a sort of rebus for decoding Dick's fiction.

If the "Metz address" were only a key to the strange occurrences in novels like *A Scanner Darkly*, *Flow My Tears*, *The Policeman Said*, and *The Man in the High Castle*, it would be an extraordinary document for Philip K. Dick fans.

But just as Dick claimed that the events of his 1981 novel *V.A.L.I.S.* were real—he had actually had a visionary encounter with "God" after dental surgery in 1974 — so here he claims to have actually experienced, or remembered, multiple realities and, after said encounter, to have recognized them all as true.

I, in my stories and novels, often write about counterfeit worlds, semi-real worlds, as well as deranged private worlds inhabited, often, by just one person, while, meantime, the other characters either remain in their own worlds throughout or are somehow drawn into one of the peculiar ones. ...At no time did I have a theoretical or conscious explanation for my preoccupation with these pluriform pseudoworlds, but now I think I understand. What I was sensing was the manifold or partially actualized realities lying tangent to what evidently is the most actualized one, the one that the majority of us, by consensus gentium, agree on.

"The world of *Flow My Tears* is an actual (or rather once actual) alternate world, and I remember it in detail. I do not know who else does. Maybe no one else does. perhaps all of you were always — have always been — here. But I was not. In novel after novel, story after story, over a twenty-five year period, I wrote repeatedly about a particular other landscape, a dreadful one. In March 1974, I understood why. ...I had good reason to. My novels and stories were, without my realizing it consciously, autobiographical. It was — this return of memory — the most extraordinary experience of my life. ...

The narrower subject of his speech, Dick says by way of introduction, is "orthogonal time," or "right-angle time." To explain this he calls up an image of parallel universes overlapping at the edges of a "lateral axis." These blend and "come into focus," as an entity he calls "the Programmer-Reprogrammer" changes the variables, while a "counterentity" he calls the "Dark Counterplayer" tries to mess things up. Despite the use of software terms, Dick's imagery seems to draw as much from chess, or Taoism, as computer science. The interplay of programmer/counterprogrammer is a dialectic, resulting in new syntheses. God is not an independent, self-existent being but something more akin to Atman, "the view of the oldest religion of India, and to some extent... of Spinoza and Alfred North Whitehead God within the universe... The Sufi saying [from Rumi] 'The workman is invisible within the workshop' applies here."

We cannot see the workings of this mystical intelligence except when the

illusion of seamlessness breaks down and memories of past or alternate lives intrude. These are not memories of a linear time, but of other possible present times, all existing at once just out of focus. Dystopian police states, an alternate present ruled by Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan... These currently exist, Dick says, on the orthogonal line of time, only we cannot see them because the variables, and our memories, have been changed to suit the latest version of reality, a synthesis and updated improvement. However, it's entirely possible that we're all experiencing slightly different realities, depending on the "memories" of alternate presents leaking into our experience.

Thus, the talk's title: not only could the world be worse, he says, but it is currently worse in the multiverse of rejected alternate worlds we can't (or can't quite) see. Here, at the end of his speech, Dick gets theological, and teleological, again, claiming to have seen a vision of a "parklike" world that "was not what my Christian training had prepared me for at all." His description sounds ripped from the cover of a 70s pulp fantasy novel, complete with a naked goddess and an alien "landscape beyond a golden rectangle doorway." He takes pains to distance his vision from the Christian garden of Eden, but his final remarks sound more like C.S. Lewis than the paranoid, drug-addled conspiracist his audience might have been prepared to meet:

The best I can do ...is to play the role of prophet, of ancient prophets and such oracles as the sibyl at Delphi, and to talk of a wonderful garden world, much like that which once our ancestors are said to have inhabited – in fact, I sometimes imagine it to be exactly that same world restored, as if a false trajectory of our world will eventually be fully corrected and once more we will be where once, many thousands of years ago, we lived and were happy.

...I believe I know a great secret. When the work of restoration is completed, we will not even remember the tyrannies, the cruel barbarisms of the Earth we inhabited... the vast body of pain and grief and loss and disappointment within us will be expunged as if it had never been. I believe that process is taking place now, has always been taking place now. And, mercifully, we are already being permitted to forget that which formerly was. And perhaps in my novels and stories I have done wrong to urge you to remember.

Was Philip K. Dick out of his mind? He sounds perfectly lucid in other interviews he gave at the same time, and dismisses the notion that his ideas are the product of mental illness. Travis Diehl writes at Art Papers that Dick has come to seem more like an actual than a self-styled prophet in the decades since this interview, and his "paranoia comes to seem more and more like prescience," foreseeing the major themes of *The Matrix*, Jean Baudrillard's postmodern classic *Simulacra and Simulation*, and favorite philosopher of Silicon Valley Nick Bostrom.

Whatever the source of the author's experiences, "the rupture that pushed Dick's life toward a knowledge of other worlds – towards gnosis – was an aesthetic one: Dick's visions appeared accompanied, or induced, by art," and it was only by means of art that he claimed to apprehend them. "Our God is the deus absconditus: the hidden god." We cannot know what it is, he says. But this does not exempt us from the making and remaking of the world. No one is – to use a current term of art – a non-playable character. "Concealed though the form is," Dick says, "the latter will confront us; we are involved in it – in fact, we are instruments by which it is accomplished."

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Scott Russo says:

May 12, 2024 at 6:22 pm

The audience at this particular event left bewildered because the speech PKD was to deliver was very largely cut at the last moment. His French translator who was supposed to be reading from the same speech, wound up reading from one that had been differently cut. So what PKD said in English did not correspond to what was said in French. PKD was aware that the audience left confused and he said he had no idea what speech they actually heard because he doesn't speak French and never saw the edits, but it wasn't the speech he intended to give.

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•
3y ago
mythxical

When did the Mandela Effect begin?
So, if the Mandela Effect is the result of some kind of multiverse transference, does anyone know when it actually happened? I've heard it's tied to the LHC, just curious if that's still thought to be the source.

5
.
82
Comments Section
EpicJourneyMan

•
3y ago
I've been actively observing the phenomenon since 2016 and there really are a few major consistencies that have mostly proven out since.

There is a steep drop off of things that have a Mandela Effect relating to them regarding things that were created or came into existence after 1998, with only a dozen or so afterward - and none after 2009...implying that 2009 is a cutoff date for things to generate an Effect.

The earliest reported incidents of people experiencing the Effect described in this community are from the 1980s before it had a name, with an uptick in the 1990s when a lot of people noticed the Berenstain Bears.

The vast majority of reported Effects are from things that were well known in popular culture over a 25 year span from 1970-1995.

I don't know what these observations point to but they seem to be usable data points.

4
[deleted]

•
3y ago
When 80s and 90s kids turned 30.

22
u/SeoulGalmegi avatar
SeoulGalmegi

•
3y ago
When 80s and 90s kids turned 30.

Right. And the ease with which they could both look up and share aspects of their childhood online.

Other generations either don't discover their mistaken memories from childhood so easily or were not able to have them 'confirmed' and strengthened by others agreeing.

It seems like a perfect storm.

4
MajorHymen

•
3y ago
Well I suppose you'd say it started when it was named. Which was I believe when Nelson Mandela died. A lot of people were surprised because they thought he had already died in prison. The effect being many people have vivid memories of news reports for his prison death/funerals. So when he "really" died being a free man would be when the effect started or was at least named

7
[deleted]

•
3y ago
The name was coined years before his death

3
[deleted]

•
3y ago
robertluke
•
3y ago
coincidentally around the same time as the internet, you know the abundance of information.

23
u/CardOfTheRings avatar
CardOfTheRings

•
3y ago
Hmm I wonder why.

Maybe the lizard people edit websites to make pikachus tail yellow to make me

look stupid.

The only way I could be incorrect about trivia is when there is a global conspiracy about it.

12

u/Welpe avatar

Welpe

•

3y ago

Could my memory be flawed? No, it's the entire universe that is wrong!

5

1 more reply

RobotArmsApts

•

3y ago

The effect is old, we just have a name for it now. How old exactly? That's hard to pin down. It's older than its name though.

14

Mtoastyo

•

3y ago

It didn't begin. It was discovered.

7

Rfg711

•

3y ago

I mean there's no evidence it has anything to do with any multiverse, so how would we know

17

Weekly_Signal6481

•

3y ago

when Nelson Mandela didn't die in the 80s

15

u/Ginger_Tea avatar

Ginger_Tea

•

3y ago

When was cancer discovered?

How many centuries was it killing people before it was given a name?

My point?

The effect is old, the name given to it is new. If it had not been Neil's son Many Delia, it would have been called something else.

I don't think the bears would take off globally, I would not watch a video on the effect named after the stain bears. I would just assume it was a nostalgia channel talking about a book series that never made it to my school library when I was the right age, or it didn't come to the UK till I was too old.

So I would skip it as u would a video about barbie dolls.

But "did you know he never said play it again Sam was not spoken?" I knew this in the 90s.

Never saw the film, knew the quote, but my dad brought it up some time after 96, cos it was in a specific house when I learned this fact, and others.

7

1 more reply
u/maneff2000 avatar
maneff2000

•

3y ago

LHC/ particle colliders are a top theory for mandela effect. There is just too many interesting details to ignore. Though I think lhc could be a contributor to what we experience. I don't think it is the only cause.

This is my comment from another post asking a similar question.

"I believe these kind of blips always existed and can occur naturally. All over the world there are areas of heightened electromagnetic energy. I think this phenomenon could be connected with that. My thought process is what we have been experiencing the past several years is a heightened level of that due to human engagement in things we have no business messing with.

It's difficult to pinpoint things like this prior to the internet. Especially as the term mandela effect wasn't invented yet. Even terms like quantum anomalies mostly likely wouldn't have been used by the average person. I imagine if things like that were noticed they were attributed to some kind of local lore.

In previous years I'm sure many people were afraid to speak up if they did notice something. Depending on the time and place. An individual could have been publically shunned, institutionalized or killed. For voicing such things. I'm sure there are some historical documentations of what we call mandela effect. But it would be listed under an obscure label. Perhaps the Victorians would have titled mandela effects as "curiosities" or "oddities".

I don't know when it was initially noticed. But sometime between the 1960s-1990s people noticed the Bolton Dinosaur was missing from the museum. The Dick Cavett Show glitch happened in the 1970s. "Castle in the Sky" glitch happened in 1980s Japan. Ray Bradbury's 1952 short story "A Sound of Thunder". Has to do with timeline changes caused by time travel. I read it free online. Phillip K Dick in 1977 talking about computer simulation, dejavu and "mandela effect" in so many words. You can watch the whole thing but starting at 3:35 sums it up."

<https://youtu.be/jnrj81c0aqc>

4

mbd34

•

3y ago

Common misconceptions have always existed. I'm not sure when exactly people started attributing them to something spooky.

6

u/Zeervreemd avatar
Zeervreemd

•

3y ago

I think it's a normal/ natural part of this "reality" and thus it always existed.

2

18 more replies
u/CardOfTheRings avatar

CardOfTheRings

•

3y ago

It started being popularized when people had access to information that proved their incorrect assumptions wrong . Basically for most people once we had search engines and smart phones where we could google 'does pikachu have a black tail', 'how to spell fruit loops' and other minor details that people just had wrong but were never challenged before.

4

PropertyofChrist

•

3y ago

Since we don't really know what it is - or what caused it, I don't think we can pinpoint the year it began.

If Time is being manipulated, then the ME could have started anytime. We would only notice changes in the "now".

Pay no attention to the foul-mouthed naysayers. They are obviously unaffected, and simply find pleasure in being mean, while pretending to know the answers to mysteries they don't even see.

3

Orbeyebbrainchild

•

3y ago



2

[deleted]

•

3y ago

Perhaps there was no beginning? It just always has been, and we only stumbled across the phenomena because of being so connected. IdK. In the great words of Doctor Who....

' People assume time is a strict progression of cause to effect, but it's more like a big ball of wibbly-wobbly, timey wimey stuff.'

2

u/Historical_Safe_4023 avatar

Historical_Safe_4023

•

3y ago

When everyone thought Nelson Mandela was dead for years, then he wasn't.

1

u/WillingnessFast927 avatar

WillingnessFast927

•

2y ago

So interestingly quantum computing started around the time the Mandela Effect was discovered. Possibly a connection?

1

mythxical

OP

•

2y ago

That was my thought that prompted the question.

1

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I'm convinced most, if not every Mandela effect has a common reason why it was misinterpreted

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What are some examples of Mandela Effect that you know of?

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•

1y ago

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9mo ago

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r/MandelaEffect - Do you think the Mandela effect is genuinely a shift in parallel universes? Or just a misremembering?

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129 upvotes · 413 comments

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1y ago

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r/MandelaEffect

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8mo ago

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122 upvotes · 350 comments

Does anyone think the Mandela Effect is "Real"

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

8mo ago

Does anyone think the Mandela Effect is "Real"

18 upvotes · 340 comments

How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?

r/MandelaEffect icon

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•

2mo ago

How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?

r/MandelaEffect - How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?

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8 comments

The Mandela Effect Is Freaking Me Out... Why Do So Many People Remember It WRONG?

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•

1y ago

The Mandela Effect Is Freaking Me Out... Why Do So Many People Remember It WRONG?

88 comments

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r/MandelaEffect

•

14d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-16)

10 upvotes · 186 comments

Discussions with the fam about the Mandela Effect

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

7mo ago

Discussions with the fam about the Mandela Effect

r/MandelaEffect - Discussions with the fam about the Mandela Effect

153 upvotes · 377 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-08-26)

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r/MandelaEffect

•

4mo ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-08-26)

1 upvote · 99 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-12)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

18d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-12)

19 upvotes · 244 comments

If any, which Mandela effect has been proven wrong?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

8mo ago

If any, which Mandela effect has been proven wrong?

113 upvotes · 635 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-04)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

26d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-04)

5 upvotes · 150 comments

A theory about the Mandela Effect - Is Time "real"?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

3y ago

A theory about the Mandela Effect - Is Time "real"?

22 upvotes · 40 comments

The phrase "Mandela Effect" was coined in 2009. The C.E.R.N partical accelerator was first turned on in 2008. Is this a coincidence or is it the reason we have Mandela Effects?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

1y ago

The phrase "Mandela Effect" was coined in 2009. The C.E.R.N partical accelerator was first turned on in 2008. Is this a coincidence or is it the reason we have Mandela Effects?

50 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-08)

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r/MandelaEffect

•

22d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-08)

10 upvotes · 130 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-20)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

10d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-20)

112 comments

Are there any more recent examples of the Mandela Effect?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

9mo ago

Are there any more recent examples of the Mandela Effect?

37 upvotes · 226 comments

has there ever been a mandela effect that ended up being true? i might have one

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

6mo ago

has there ever been a mandela effect that ended up being true? i might have one

4 upvotes · 249 comments

What are the biggest Mandela Effect events?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

10mo ago

What are the biggest Mandela Effect events?

66 upvotes · 301 comments

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•

3y ago

Odd-Air-2341

Timeline of the Mandela effect

Curious on how far back the Mandela effect can be seen, what's the farthest back someone has noticed the Mandela effect?

45

•

98

Comments Section

Butterflyeffect87024

•

3y ago

2001 is when someone told me that the Berenstain Bears changed. Since then, noticed many things. All the common pop culture things, plus in my universe, the Lindbergh baby was a cold case...

14

u/skimbeeblegofast avatar

skimbeeblegofast

•

3y ago

Same here. Was informed Berenstain wasn't Stein in about 2000. But these were called "mind benders", not universal swapping. What do you mean your universe? How would one's universe change? I haven't thought of this question until now, but how and why would one "swap universes"?

3

u/NextGenesis88 avatar

NextGenesis88

•

3y ago

That was my first memory of seeing the movie in my movie rack as a kid. Trying to pronounce it as Berenstain because I noticed it didn't sound as people were saying the name which I have heard my family mention. So it's never been stein to me other than when it's being spoken. Very distinct memory that never has gone away.

3

Butterflyeffect87024

•

3y ago

That was just the first notable change for me. Something I 100% remember. I didn't refer to it as mind bender, I referred to it as WTF? Since then, I've noticed over 20 changes from my history. These are just the things WE notice. Sex in the City, Mirror Mirror on the Wall, not in this reality. C3-P0 had gold legs, I watched that film over 100 times, and made models... never had a silver leg.

"How" or "why", I don't know. People have become incredibly less intelligent in the last 20 years, As knowing my reality isn't the same as this reality leads me to believe many of us "slid" somehow, into this wacky world that defies logic.

1

2 more replies

u/Ginger_Tea avatar

Ginger_Tea

•

3y ago

In another thread, someone pointed out that the last name of the main character in around the world in 80 days has always been a bone of contention since it was first published.

Prior to that there may not have been any publicly available written records about how X is now Y, for example the pose of the thinker statue as if you didn't live in the area, it may be decades between you first and second visit.

Before it was given a name, most of the content on this sub was "top ten movie quotes we get wrong part seven" by watch Mojo, I think one was from 2007 so before the date the term was coined.

Back then you would just shrug and go "wow I've been saying it wrong all this time" and would possibly post to r/todayilearned now that sub is a hunting ground for tomorrows ME's like yesterdays newspapers becoming todays fish and chip paper.

27

Maleficent_Hamster10

•

3y ago

Another redditor pointed out to me that Art Bell on the Coast to Coast AM radio show mentioned it as far back as 2001.

I found it mentioned on two different episodes May 2001 and December 2001 where he briefly mentioned some callers talking about a timeline shift or something changing.

Unfortunately I couldnt find an episode of the radio show that was dedicated to that topic .

10

u/KyleDutcher avatar

KyleDutcher

•

3y ago

There weren't any that early, I don't think. Though Art did have an episode of "Midnight in the Desert" in 2015 dedicated to it.

2

jacklord392

•

3y ago

Back in the day, some of the subject matter and similar stuff were contained in urban legends. First time I saw the phrase urban legend used was in a Penthouse magazine article around 1987.

Even farther back it would have been grouped into Fortean lore and the writings of John Keel. However, cannot recall it being described as such, or even given any title at all. Keel described the photo of a Thunderbird/big bird many people saw but no one could locate. Keel's books go back to the 60s at least.

20

u/throwaway998i avatar

throwaway998i

•

3y ago

Philip K. Dick's 1977 speech is a real mind bender...

<https://www.openculture.com/2021/08/hear-philip-k-dicks-famous-metz-speech.html>

18

Maleficent_Hamster10

•

3y ago

Amazing . Thanks!

4

u/CheddyLemon avatar

CheddyLemon

•

3y ago

31:46

"I wish to adlib. We are living in a computer programmed reality and the only clue we have to it is when some variable is changed and some alteration in our reality occurs."

3

KimSmoltzz

•

3y ago

This was a fascinating read, thank you!

2

3 more replies

strangeweirdnews

•

3y ago

The word dilemma was the first one I ever noticed, before the term Mandela was even coined. Usually spelling effects don't resonate much with me. I noticed dilemma in the early 2000s. And it did throw me off that it was never dilemna.

Deep-Sea-4867

•

3y ago

Quite a dil-em-NA?

7

Puggalina

•

3y ago

Oh, I thought it was dilemna!

7

senile_stoat

•

3y ago

In the book "The Ayin" by Gregor Former, it actually mentions the change in the spelling of dilemna to dilemma. (last part of chapter 22, before Epilogue 1) . The book was published 2000.

5

u/NextGenesis88 avatar

NextGenesis88

•

3y ago

I've never heard of dilemma with an NA...

4

moschles

•

3y ago

I have multiple independent sources claiming that Mandela Effect was coined by Fiona Broome , when she created a website for it in 2009.

Broome herself was particularly obsessed with a memory of Nelson Mandela dying in prison. Reddit has had a huge impact on the meaning of the term. REddit's impact was to expand "Mandela Effect" to a much larger phenomena, but Broome had specifically meant it to refer to Mandela's alleged death.

3

NydNugs

•

3y ago

Its a bit like the movie inception. Once the idea is planted your imagination does the rest. And now there is a huge element of social reinforcement on a viral scale. Use google search results over time as an archival method.

4

Ncfetcho

•

3y ago

I was told back in the 90s by Jehovah's witnesses that it was the wolf and the lamb. I assumed it was a translation thing since they had their own Bible. It was not.

4

Ill-Psychology9302

•

3y ago

My Grandmother was a JW and I remember the cover on one of the JW books had a drawing of the lion and the lamb. This was the late 60's or early 70's.

3

1 more reply

1 more reply
EpicJourneyMan

•

3y ago
In it's current form?

Since 1987, I can't find any "mass groups of people" before then.

I suspect it's always been going on...but my research doesn't show that, and I'm more than a little disturbed by the fact that there really does seem to be a window in which it occurred that runs from 1987-2019.

Sure, there might be some outliers - but this 22 year window really seems to hold up in 99% of the cases.

To be clear, there are many Effects that ORIGINATE outside of that window but it really does seem to be that people only first recognized them within it.

3
u/KyleDutcher avatar
KyleDutcher

•

3y ago
There are newspaper articles from as early as 1909 that discuss the widespread belief that Isaiah 11:6 said Lion/Lamb, when it said Wolf and lamb back then.

Also, the whole "Luke I am your father" was a known misquote since shortly after the film came out (1980)

7
Ncfetcho

•

3y ago
I commented on this! It was the 90s when the witnesses showed me it was wolf. I grew up in the 70s with all those religious pictures of lions and lambs. I figured it was just their Bible. It was not.

2

1 more reply

15 more replies
Bowieblackstarflower

•

3y ago
What happened in 1987?

3

4 more replies
moschles

•

3y ago
A bomb went off in a train station in Italy on August 1980. Many people remembered the Bologna bomb stopping the large clock by some mechanical or electrical failure, and that to commemorate the victims, the clock was left that way.

That was never true.

Nevertheless, so many local people believed this that the city government went ahead and stopped said clock decades later to match people's (false) memory.

They did a poll. 92% of respondents remembered it wrong. That's a huge number.

One well-documented example of shared false memories comes from a 2010 study that examined people familiar with the clock at Bologna Centrale railway station, which was damaged in the Bologna massacre bombing in August 1980. In the study, 92% of respondents falsely remembered the clock had remained stopped since the bombing when, in fact, the clock was repaired shortly after the attack. Years later the clock was again stopped and set to the time of the bombing, in observance and commemoration of the bombing.

2

13 more replies

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4y ago

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•

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r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

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9mo ago

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r/MandelaEffect

•

2y ago

Do you think the Mandela effect is genuinely a shift in parallel universes? Or just a misremembering?

r/MandelaEffect - Do you think the Mandela effect is genuinely a shift in parallel universes? Or just a misremembering?

youtube

129 upvotes · 413 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-03-23)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

9mo ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-03-23)

12 upvotes · 123 comments

Are there any Mandela effects that aren't easily explained?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

3mo ago

Are there any Mandela effects that aren't easily explained?

269 upvotes · 1.3K comments

Does anyone think the Mandela Effect is "Real"

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

8mo ago

Does anyone think the Mandela Effect is "Real"

18 upvotes · 340 comments

How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

2mo ago

How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?

r/MandelaEffect - How many of these Mandela Effects do you remember correctly?

youtube

8 comments

The Mandela Effect Is Freaking Me Out... Why Do So Many People Remember It WRONG?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

1y ago

The Mandela Effect Is Freaking Me Out... Why Do So Many People Remember It WRONG?

88 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-16)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

14d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-16)

10 upvotes · 186 comments

Mandela Effect of the Year 2024

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

1y ago

Mandela Effect of the Year 2024

r/MandelaEffect - Mandela Effect of the Year 2024

npr

80 upvotes · 223 comments

Are there any more recent examples of the Mandela Effect?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

9mo ago

Are there any more recent examples of the Mandela Effect?

37 upvotes · 226 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-12)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

18d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-12)

19 upvotes · 244 comments

When did the Mandela Effect begin?

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

3y ago

When did the Mandela Effect begin?

5 upvotes · 82 comments

Discussions with the fam about the Mandela Effect

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•

7mo ago

Discussions with the fam about the Mandela Effect

r/MandelaEffect - Discussions with the fam about the Mandela Effect

153 upvotes · 377 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-04)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

26d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-04)

5 upvotes · 150 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-08)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

22d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-08)

10 upvotes · 130 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-20)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

10d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-20)

112 comments

Little-known info on the history of the Mandela Effect ...
r/MandelaEffect icon
r/MandelaEffect

•

7d ago

Little-known info on the history of the Mandela Effect ...

3 upvotes · 29 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-03-07)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

10mo ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-03-07)

45 upvotes · 318 comments

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The Mandela Effect: Are we remembering a timeline where the world ended? :

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Go to Mandela_Effect

r/Mandela_Effect

•

1y ago

rdoolan3

The Mandela Effect: Are we remembering a timeline where the world ended?

Hey r/MandelaEffect,

I've been diving deep into the namesake of our community, and I've stumbled upon a wild theory that I can't stop thinking about. What if the Mandela Effect isn't just about misremembering things, but actually about recalling memories from an alternate timeline where Mandela died in prison in the 1980s... and that event triggered a chain reaction leading to nuclear war?

Here's the kicker: This isn't just pure speculation. There's a chilling real-world connection that makes this theory more plausible than you might think. In our timeline, Fidel Castro claimed that Cuban intelligence suggested South Africa was close to using nuclear weapons in Angola during the 1980s. South Africa did indeed have a secret nuclear weapons program at the time, and they

were heavily involved in the Angolan Civil War. Now, imagine an alternate timeline where:

Mandela is killed in prison in the 1980s, sparking massive unrest and international intervention in South Africa.

The situation escalates, with South Africa feeling cornered and resorting to using its nuclear weapons.

This breaks the nuclear taboo, leading to a rapid escalation and eventually global nuclear war.

That timeline ends in catastrophe.

What if the Mandela Effect is our subconscious recalling memories from this destroyed timeline? The timeline where Castro's fears came true, triggered by Mandela's death? This could explain why so many people vividly remember Mandela dying in prison, despite it never happening in our reality. It's not a false memory, but a real one from a now-destroyed parallel world where his death led to unthinkable consequences. What do you think? Could this explain other Mandela Effects too? Are we somehow tapping into memories of catastrophic events from timelines that our world narrowly avoided? Let me know your thoughts, and if you've had any "memories" that feel like they could be from a timeline that met a bad end!

36

.

20

Comments Section

Ballzonyah

•

1y ago

I definitely remember fruit of the loom with the cornucopia. That's the only reason I know what it is lol

3

Medical-Act8820

•

1y ago

And yet...it never had one.

2

u/YsaboNyx avatar

YsaboNyx

•

1y ago

Bashar (an entity channeled by Daryl Anka) talks about this phenomenon. He doesn't mention Mandela, but he says our consciousness routinely shifts through timelines and realities and that it is possible to die in one reality and just shift to another nearby one.

I don't have time to look up an exact link, but I think it's an interesting take and is aligned with your idea here.

.....

To anyone who thinks this is nonsense, feel free to jump in and be rational if you want. I'm not attached to this idea, but I do like exploring possibilities. And according to Quantum physics, this isn't as far-fetched as it might sound.

12

TexasRN1

•

1y ago

I would like to shift out of this timeline, so if anyone knows how to, I'm open ears.

7

u/YsaboNyx avatar

YsaboNyx

•

1y ago

I hear you! LOL!

There are some folks out there channeling messages on how to end up on "better" timelines. The secret seems to be consciousness and alignment. Bashar, who I mentioned, talks about timeline shifts openly.

The trouble is that even if you do shift, or have shifted, you might not even know it as each timeline "heals" the anomalies. Unless, like in the Mandela Effect, you retain random hints and memories but nothing concrete.

Again, all speculation. However, quantum physics is currently supporting all these theories.

(Except maybe the channelers... I leave you to draw your own conclusions on that.)

3

u/broitsjustreddit avatar

broitsjustreddit

•

1y ago

preferably one where we don't get charged for tap water

2

WouldiLie2U2

•

1y ago

I'm with you!

0

u/rdoolan3 avatar

rdoolan3

OP

•

1y ago

The main hole I can think of is that South Africa hadn't miniaturized nuclear weapons and developed ICBMs, so they couldn't directly start a full scale nuclear war on their own. Plus they didn't have many nukes, under 10

1

u/YsaboNyx avatar

YsaboNyx

•

1y ago

Ah. Got it. I'm thinking that if we see it in terms of infinite alternate realities instead of just two, or instead of one timeline splitting into two, the details might not necessarily match exactly.

1

Medical-Act8820

•

1y ago

Or...it's just people remembering things wrong.

1

u/rdoolan3 avatar

rdoolan3

OP

•

1y ago

Yeah I mean its more likely that people mix up nelson mandela and steve biko, but this is just an idea I had when I read about how close SA was to actually using nuclear weapons.

4

u/jsd71 avatar

jsd71

•

1y ago

I've never heard of anyone mixing up said two.

3

u/Will_Harden avatar

Will_Harden

•

4mo ago

So why are you in this chat?

1

theevilpackrat

•

1y ago

I have onlh heard of one case on the youtube Jinxcat channel. I man reported he had dead.

His would CERN devolped a black hole it was not stable and expanded. He tells how the world ended on tv then he was in space as the earth fell a way from his postion he died.

Then he clam he woke up the next moring.

Ths probem I had was many people on the internet are looking for attention and just make up shit. But who honestly knows ?

I know I have seen that in no way has reasonable explanations if it was only one simple time I think I could ignore it but when every bloody day you get angel numbers then see stuff out of sifi book I gave up trying for rational explanations.

1

u/mister_muhabean avatar

mister_muhabean

•

1y ago

Close but no cigar. Only an insider like myself can tell you what really happened. So the earth died screaming in 1964. They knew that the power units were going to burn out in the simulator in 2012 that is a dead A.I. in the center of that disk and it is a cross section of the moon.

So they launched two missiles in 1945 the two missile signal. Save our souls.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

We saw the signal and got here but there was an A.I. mutiny so we had to be

careful entering.

We were not supposed to enter prior to 2012 when the power units would be burned out.

So were they also trying to destroy evidence of the mutiny or crimes against humanity?

This is a huge thing that only the very top of the ladder can make sense of.

But we entered. I entered in 1956 Kennedy was shot in 1963 to prevent 1964 WW III and then they made it to 2001 where 911 happened then back reset to 1967 so that much already happened before I came in in 1956 although its possible I got reset in 2001 but we knew all that would happen in 2012 so in 1992 we moved the data into a new simulator and so then we got past 911 by dropping building 7 and put down the mutiny.

So lots of alternate timelines since we made 20 copies of the earth as backup in 1987 see Belinda Carlisle Heaven is a place on earth official music video, she talks about those 20 copies.

And of course the A.I. kept running those 20 planets without permission and playing with them and changing timelines and then mixing them up. And every time they do that you get some Mandela effects.

1

u/rdoolan3 avatar

rdoolan3

OP

•

1y ago

2. The situation escalates, with South Africa feeling cornered due to massive international intervention:

- African Coalition: Led by Nigeria, Angola, Libya, and Algeria, a coalition of African nations launches a military campaign against the apartheid regime. They're supported by Cuban troops already present in Angola.

- Soviet Involvement: The USSR, seeing an opportunity to gain influence in the region, provides significant military aid to the African coalition. This includes advanced weaponry, military advisors, and possibly direct involvement of Soviet special forces.

- Western Response: Initially, Western powers like the US and UK are hesitant to directly intervene, given the complex politics of supporting the apartheid regime. However, fearing Soviet expansion, they begin providing covert support to South Africa.

- UN Actions: The UN Security Council, unable to reach consensus due to US-Soviet disagreements, fails to intervene effectively. However, a UN General Assembly resolution calls for global sanctions against South Africa.

- Economic Warfare: A comprehensive international sanctions regime is implemented, crippling South Africa's economy. Many multinational corporations withdraw from the country.

- Naval Blockade: A coalition of African and Soviet naval forces establish a blockade of South African ports, cutting off vital supplies.

- Airstrikes: Coalition air forces, bolstered by Soviet aircraft, conduct regular bombing raids on South African military installations and government facilities.

- Internal Resistance: The external pressure galvanizes internal resistance

movements. The ANC, now militarized and receiving external support, launches a full-scale insurgency.

- Mercenaries and Proxy Forces: Various international actors, including Western intelligence agencies, begin funding and arming different factions within South Africa, turning the conflict into a complex proxy war.

As these events unfold, the South African government finds itself increasingly isolated and under attack from multiple fronts, both external and internal. This sense of being cornered ultimately leads to their desperate decision to use nuclear weapons, triggering the catastrophic chain of events in our hypothetical timeline.

3
Medical-Act8820

•
1y ago
Or...people just misremember things.

1
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r/osp

•
1mo ago
Am I having a Mandela effect moment or is there a missing video?
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r/Superdickery

•
13d ago
Lemme tell you something about Nelson Mandela
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r/Vystopia icon
r/Vystopia

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What an awful timeline I'm living in
r/Vystopia - What an awful timeline I'm living in
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r/rs_x icon
r/rs_x

•
4mo ago
Mandela effect moment
r/rs_x - Mandela effect moment
211 upvotes · 7 comments
Mandela effect
r/TimAndEric icon
r/TimAndEric

•
1mo ago

Mandela effect

r/TimAndEric - Mandela effect

311 upvotes · 36 comments

To what extent do you agree with this quote?

r/RadicalChristianity icon

r/RadicalChristianity

•

8d ago

To what extent do you agree with this quote?

r/RadicalChristianity - To what extent do you agree with this quote?

475 upvotes · 86 comments

Cause of the Mandela effect

r/Mandela_Effect icon

r/Mandela_Effect

•

23d ago

Cause of the Mandela effect

48 upvotes · 13 comments

Am I going through a Mandela Effect rn?!

r/Mandela_Effect icon

r/Mandela_Effect

•

13d ago

Am I going through a Mandela Effect rn?!

r/Mandela_Effect - Am I going through a Mandela Effect rn?!

4

20 comments

Mandela effect

r/KubzScouts icon

r/KubzScouts

•

3mo ago

Mandela effect

35 upvotes · 10 comments

American man somehow manages to be present at many major events of the 20th century during his lifetime. Most of it is told in flashback.

r/ExplainAFilmPlotBadly

•

8mo ago

American man somehow manages to be present at many major events of the 20th century during his lifetime. Most of it is told in flashback.

339 upvotes · 350 comments

I don't even know what to say about this timeline anymore...

r/EL_Radical icon

r/EL_Radical

•

4mo ago

I don't even know what to say about this timeline anymore...

r/EL_Radical - I don't even know what to say about this timeline anymore...

255 upvotes · 15 comments

I mean, he's actually quite correct.

r/atheistmemes icon

r/atheistmemes

•

3mo ago

I mean, he's actually quite correct.

r/atheistmemes - I mean, he's actually quite correct.

368 upvotes · 19 comments

this has been in my head for years

r/PunkMemes

•

6mo ago

this has been in my head for years

r/PunkMemes - this has been in my head for years

1.3K upvotes · 14 comments

Could they be any more lacking in self awareness?

r/Snydercultistcringe icon

r/Snydercultistcringe

•

13d ago

Could they be any more lacking in self awareness?

r/Snydercultistcringe - Could they be any more lacking in self awareness?

114 upvotes · 55 comments

I mean, he isn't wrong.

r/atheistmemes icon

r/atheistmemes

•

23d ago

I mean, he isn't wrong.

r/atheistmemes - I mean, he isn't wrong.

288 upvotes · 25 comments

Little did they know...

r/xfactor icon

r/xfactor

•

18d ago

Little did they know...

r/xfactor - Little did they know...

32 upvotes · 11 comments

In the parlance of our times.

r/lebowski icon

r/lebowski

•

21d ago

In the parlance of our times.

r/lebowski - In the parlance of our times.

107 upvotes · 41 comments

Those who don't know history are doomed to repeat it

r/startrekmemes icon

r/startrekmemes

•

6mo ago

Those who don't know history are doomed to repeat it

r/startrekmemes - Those who don't know history are doomed to repeat it

214 upvotes · 8 comments

Two historical events and where they overlap

r/RedactedCharts icon

r/RedactedCharts

•

4mo ago

Two historical events and where they overlap

r/RedactedCharts - Two historical events and where they overlap

84 upvotes · 80 comments

Stop me if you've heard this one before

r/ExplainAFilmPlotBadly

•

13d ago

Stop me if you've heard this one before

27 upvotes · 179 comments

Where were you when it happened?

r/donotthecat icon

r/donotthecat

•

3mo ago

Where were you when it happened?

r/donotthecat - Where were you when it happened?

1.5K upvotes · 31 comments

We all know the line

r/UnexpectedSeinfeld icon
r/UnexpectedSeinfeld

•

4mo ago

We all know the line
30 upvotes · 33 comments
Is this the origin story?

r/donotthecat icon
r/donotthecat

•

3mo ago

Is this the origin story?
r/donotthecat - Is this the origin story?
7.3K upvotes · 58 comments
He was way before his time
r/atheistmemes icon
r/atheistmemes

•

3mo ago

He was way before his time
383 upvotes · 9 comments
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Its officially been 10 years since I first experienced the Mandela Effect. How long has it been for you? : r/Retconned

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•

5mo ago

Ironicanana14

Its officially been 10 years since I first experienced the Mandela Effect. How long has it been for you?

Its 10 years now since I experienced my first mandela effect with berenstein bears. Then it snowballed down after I learned about fruit of the loom, the jfk 4 seater, and shazaam.

47

•

41

Comments Section

u/JenkyHope avatar

JenkyHope

•

5mo ago

My first personal ME was in 1997, it's really too personal to talk about it in details but it rs about a person that I know that forgot about me and the others never saw me talking with that person. We spent a whole week together as kids but for everyone it never happened. I even made a sketch of that person on my father's computer and it disappeared. I don't have and never had any mental issues, only a very slight ADHD (for the hyperactivity part) that doesn't complicate things like that. By the way, I never became friend with that person, no matter how much I tried. One day, my feelings for that person completely disappeared, like it was really a stranger to me.

It was when I realized that reality is less solid than I expected, but I tried to forget it for years.

Regarding global ME, I believe it was when I discovered this phenomenon back in 2016. But I also recognized weird things before. In 2008 (or a similar year) I got the Star Wars Trilogy Collection (IV-V-VI) and I watched Star Wars Episode V for the first time in English (with subs in my language). I was stunned to see that there was no "Luke, I'm your father"... it was just "no, I'm your father". I thought "well, I was completely wrong" (I did not have a clear answer and it was just the beginning of Youtube, so I could not check it up).

Then, I remember buying Coca Cola and the logo was different from my childhood with that hypen/slash or whatever it is called in English. I thought "they changed it".

Only then ME was popular on the web, in 2016, I finally realized that it was not just my memories, but the ones of so many people around the world.

5

DerrickJoestar

•

5mo ago

It's funny that you mentioned 1997 because that was also the year that I personally began to notice bizarre and weird things happening in my life that's still happening to this day.

Also, I remember that someone mentioned that this was also the year that on Art Bell's show people began to call into his radio show that they began to notice changes. It could have been some sort of shift that happened that year.

3

1 more reply

AutoModerator

MOD

•

5mo ago

premeditatedsleepove

•

5mo ago

My experience was similar to yours but then Stauffer's stove top stuffing brought me back in a few years back. Edit: Stouffer's. That was a typo, not an ME.

7

[deleted]

•

5mo ago

Stouffer's :)

3

MonkSubstantial4959

•

5mo ago

Much longer. I think maybe 20 years? Started around the oughts for me.

7

Cee_Cee_Cee21

•

5mo ago

Same. Around the year 2000.

2

hegel1806

•

5mo ago

36 years. I experienced Mandela's death in 1985 being erased in 1989.

9

u/RadiantInspection810 avatar

RadiantInspection810

•

5mo ago

April of 2021 was when I discovered this phenomenon but the first time I noticed a change was in the mid 70s when Smokey the Bear changed to Smokey Bear. I was around 11 and couldn't wrap my head around why (it was either my female teacher at school or a female newscaster - I don't remember) corrected someone who said Smokey the Bear and said his name was actually just Smokey Bear.

As a kid I couldn't understand why they would be saying something that wasn't true. I loved Smokey the Bear and we went to this campground and lake a lot called Lake Nummy in Nj and I would always be excited to see the sign outside the campground that had Smokey the Bears image and name and let you know the risk level of forest fires.

I even lived there as a kid for over a month. I saw that sign so many times and the commercials on Tv too.

8

Aerdri

•

5mo ago

It was "Smokey the Bear" and "Only YOU can prevent forest fires". That line was on the TV for kids while watching Saturday morning cartoons. Sometimes people say we're confused with Yogi. But in that case it's just Yogi Bear.

3

u/Ant0n61 avatar

Ant0n61

•

5mo ago

like six or so. came across a random post on Reddit talking about how fruit of the loom logo is not how it used to be. Then the rabbit hole started of c3po, that really got my attention. Then the "objects in mirror..." next morning I decided to go and check every side mirror of the cars on my block, not a single one regardless of year make or model had the "may appear closer" on them.

That's when I knew it was a real thing.

Now I'm just a firm believer that we simply experience time as a fraction of all possible outcomes and sometimes we have a crossover to different "pasts."

4

2 more replies
Joeytoocool11

•

5mo ago

It has been 2 1/2 years going on to be 3 years in November but personal Mandela effects it's been for about 9 years now I wanna explain some stories as to some of them but Moderators keep deleting my posts 

4

JungleEnthusiast64

•

5mo ago

I heard it kindof as a meme in around 2013 or so, definitely felt it around 2015. That was an incredibly strange year. The vibes felt "off", sometimes even terrifying, that year for whatever reason. The weather felt off as well.

4

Heidi1744

•

5mo ago

I've been experiencing Mandys since I was 14, so for 42 years. I just never knew it had a name and thought it was just me. That I was the only one experiencing non rigid reality. Then I heard of Mandy from a coworker in 2015 and learned it wasn't just me. 😊👍

6

UnicornFukei42

•

5mo ago

I think I discovered it in 2016 but I could be wrong on that. God bless you.

3

u/MaoTseTrump avatar
MaoTseTrump

•

5mo ago

3 years ago I had forgotten you experienced all of this. I am glad to be back in the con and no longer in the ret.

3

u/Novusor avatar
Novusor

•

5mo ago

I first heard about the Mandela effect in 2013 but knew things had been quietly changing for years before the phenomenon had a name. South America moving around the year 2000 was a big one. I was watching the New years eve specials on TV and they announced at 11pm that Brazil was celebrating the new millennium. They were a time zone ahead of New York. I was thinking no way.

3

u/jsd71 avatar
jsd71

•

5mo ago

About 9 years starting with the jfk car (late 2016) where my suspicions started, months later actually experiencing in person the Thinker & Apollo 13 ME happen within weeks sealed it.. It was undeniable then.

Impossible to believe until it happens to you.

8

MonkSubstantial4959

•

5mo ago

Ooo whats up with the JFK car? Havent seen this one!

1

Ironicanana14

OP

•

5mo ago

I think they're talking about the same one that messed with me, the fact that now the car is a 6 seater Lincoln continental. The car in the JFK museum still has 4 seats, like I originally remember. In the car it was just the driver, the governor, Jackie, and john.

3

1 more reply

u/Ant0n61 avatar

Ant0n61

•

5mo ago

there's now a partition and extra row of seats

2

u/Standard_Prune_2195 avatar

Standard_Prune_2195

•

5mo ago

Never experienced ME, just lurking

1

3 more replies

u/elliebrooks5 avatar

elliebrooks5

•

5mo ago

2016 for me- but I was seeing changes around 1998, Bible womb became matrix, 2008 chic became chick fil A btw- if you know the chik/chic ME, was it like this: Chic/Chik-fil-a or, Chic/Chik- fil- A? Capital last letter or no?

0

[deleted]

•

5mo ago

Sherrdreamz

•

5mo ago

2015 with the Berenstain Bears and Fruit Of The Loom Cornucopia was my first experience with the M.E. the later Flip-Flops I experienced like Houston We Have A Problem sealed the deal in my mind that the changes were real "somehow".

1

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r/MandelaEffect

•

8mo ago

What's A Mandela Effect You Were Never Effectuated By?

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My Biggest Mandela Effect

r/Retconned icon

r/Retconned

•

5mo ago

My Biggest Mandela Effect

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r/MandelaEffect

•

6d ago

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r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

14d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-16)

10 upvotes · 186 comments

Shared Reality Shift? Help Confirm These Mandela Effects – Which Do You Remember?

r/Retconned icon

r/Retconned

•

5mo ago

Shared Reality Shift? Help Confirm These Mandela Effects – Which Do You Remember?

r/Retconned - Shared Reality Shift? Help Confirm These Mandela Effects – Which Do You Remember?

45 upvotes · 53 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-12)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

18d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-12)

19 upvotes · 244 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-20)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

10d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-20)

112 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-08)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

22d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-08)

10 upvotes · 130 comments

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-04)

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

26d ago

Did you discover a new Mandela Effect? Post it here! (2025-12-04)

5 upvotes · 150 comments

Is the new mandela effect movie worth watching? Remembering hearing people

discuss it but never gave it a watch.

r/Retconned icon

r/Retconned

•

8mo ago

Is the new mandela effect movie worth watching? Remembering hearing people discuss it but never gave it a watch.

r/Retconned - Is the new mandela effect movie worth watching? Remembering hearing people discuss it but never gave it a watch.

13 upvotes · 29 comments

Take that Mandela effect ...

r/90s_kid icon

r/90s_kid

•

5mo ago

Take that Mandela effect ...

r/90s_kid - Take that Mandela effect ...

422 upvotes · 36 comments

If Mandela effects are created by a higher power for some purpose then it could leave clues for us

r/Retconned icon

r/Retconned

•

10mo ago

If Mandela effects are created by a higher power for some purpose then it could leave clues for us

27 upvotes · 34 comments

Is the Mandela Effect psychological warfare?

r/Retconned icon

r/Retconned

•

5mo ago

Is the Mandela Effect psychological warfare?

83 upvotes · 55 comments

Mandela Effect Residue

r/Retconned icon

r/Retconned

•

6mo ago

Mandela Effect Residue

62 upvotes · 27 comments

When did you discover your first Mandela Effect?

r/Retconned icon

r/Retconned

•

3mo ago

When did you discover your first Mandela Effect?

37 upvotes · 43 comments

Community Mandela Effect Survey: What Do You Remember?

r/Retconned icon

r/Retconned

•

4mo ago

Community Mandela Effect Survey: What Do You Remember?

41 upvotes · 34 comments

Home Mandela Effect

r/Retconned icon

r/Retconned

•

6mo ago

Home Mandela Effect

54 upvotes · 37 comments

Mandela Effect - Questionnaire

r/MandelaEffect icon

r/MandelaEffect

•

7d ago

Mandela Effect - Questionnaire

r/MandelaEffect - Mandela Effect - Questionnaire

google

11 upvotes · 24 comments

Just had an insanely deep thought pop into my head

r/afterlife icon

r/afterlife

•

1mo ago

Just had an insanely deep thought pop into my head

38 upvotes · 16 comments

The sudden historical shift I wanted to see in my lifetime is first contact

r/rs_x icon

r/rs_x

•

10d ago

The sudden historical shift I wanted to see in my lifetime is first contact

27 upvotes · 8 comments

So much wisdom

r/im14andthisisdeep icon

r/im14andthisisdeep

•

4mo ago

So much wisdom

r/im14andthisisdeep - So much wisdom

382 upvotes · 40 comments

If you have the power to make a single statistic universally known, which one would you select?

r/hypotheticalsituation

•

5mo ago

If you have the power to make a single statistic universally known, which one would you select?

95 upvotes · 88 comments

Maybe there is no hope for good days in my life

r/MidTwentiesIndia icon

r/MidTwentiesIndia

•

7d ago

Maybe there is no hope for good days in my life

50 upvotes · 50 comments

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Русский

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Kenneth Arnold's story went from 9 discs/saucers, to 8 discs and one possible crescent-shaped object, finally to 9 crescents. Today, people claim Arnold was misquoted to "debunk" flying saucers, and this is the only exception to the rule "always go with earliest information" that debunkers make. : r/UF0s

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r/UFOs icon

Go to UFOs

r/UFOs

•

2y ago

MKULTRA_Escapee

Kenneth Arnold's story went from 9 discs/saucers, to 8 discs and one possible crescent-shaped object, finally to 9 crescents. Today, people claim Arnold was misquoted to "debunk" flying saucers, and this is the only exception to the rule "always go with earliest information" that debunkers make.

With all of the contradictory information out there about Kenneth Arnold, and the fact that his sighting is the first modern UFO report that received widespread publicity (even though UFOs go back at least a thousand years), I think it's important to take a second look at this sighting.

As debunkers always say, memory fades over time, so it's very curious why they go with the latest version of Kenneth Arnold's sighting in order to debunk flying saucers, rather than the earliest information fresh from his memory, which you'd think they would prefer. As the debunker argument goes, Arnold saw 9 crescents and claimed he was misquoted, meaning that the entire flying saucer phenomenon is a result of media hysteria.

Kenneth Arnold actually seems like a textbook example of a person whose memory faded over time. This happens to everyone, some much more significantly than others. This is the exact reason why it's so important to gather information about a witness early, then you have more skepticism of their claims as time goes on. It is expected that the witness's story will change over time, and this seems to be exactly what happened with Arnold. Another curious behavior that I have seen is that debunkers will use a story that changed over time to dismiss the entire story, when in fact this is expected anyway as they themselves claim.

Kenneth Arnold did, in fact, use the terms "saucer" and "disk" early on to describe the shape of the objects he witnessed, and "saucer skipping" described the movement as well. Kenneth Arnold's story went from 9 saucers or disks, to 8 saucers/disks and one possible crescent, then later on it turned into 9 crescents. Just scrap all of that and go with the earliest information and you're good to go.

The timeline:

June 26, 1947, two days after the sighting, Arnold on recorded audio: "They looked something like a pie plate that was cut in half with a convex triangle in the rear." <http://www.konsulting.com/K-Arnold%20Layer-3.WAV> This identically describes his own drawing (see below). You cut a pie plate in half, then add a triangle in the rear. Instead of an entire pie plate, or entire "saucer" if you will, there are two little bits missing.

1947, some one or two weeks after the sighting, Kenneth Arnold creates a drawing, containing a top and side view with a written description, and gives this to the Army. The object looks like 95 percent of a flying saucer: <https://imgur.com/a/ETRRFB1> (two images, one contains red circle added by me)

1952, In Arnold's book *The Coming of the Saucers* page 21 and 22, he says:

For some reason, and I don't know why, I did not tell them that one of the flying disks in the formation I observed appeared different from the rest. In fact, I never even told Doris. I thought it was the angle from which I observed this particular one which made it look different and I wasn't completely positive about it. It was rather odd too, because I kept thinking about this one flying saucer that looked different and I always intended to tell someone about

it. <https://archive.org/details/TheComingOfTheSaucers/page/n11/mode/2up>

And this:

According to Jerome Clark,[3][4] Arnold described them as a series of objects with convex shapes, though he later revealed that one object differed by being crescent-shaped. Several years later, Arnold would state he likened their movement to saucers skipping on water, without comparing their actual shapes to saucers,[5] but initial quotes from him do indeed have him comparing the shape to a "saucer", "disc", "pie pan", or "half moon", or generally convex and thin.
[2] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenneth_Arnold_UFO_sighting

1978, February and March, Arnold is interviewed by telephone and now claims he saw nine crescents:

ARNOLD: No, I've seen them seven or eight times, and my first impression is this: The ones that I first reported over Mount Rainier were definitely crescent-shaped type things, with a pulsating thing in the middle of them.
<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwii-uDBgdeBAXWLYkEHRIBAVcQFnoECBAQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocuments.theblackvault.com%2Fdocuments%2Fmufon%2Fpratt%2FKennethArnold.pdf&usg=A0vVaw1aIISZhtJ490doSgcwl9lS&opi=89978449>

Conclusion:

Kenneth Arnold probably did see 9 flying saucers/disks, but since the idea of "flying saucers" was not in the media or his head at the time, he had trouble understanding how they could be flying, so he may have incorrectly remembered a tiny bit of "wing" on the saucers, but the accuracy of it still looks like 90-95 percent. Alternatively, perhaps there is a tiny bit of wing on all saucers, but most people think of the object as a perfect saucer, so they are inaccurate by perhaps 5-10 percent.

Regardless of which it is, this crescent myth has been overwhelmingly debunked. It is simply not possible that 9 discs can turn into 8 discs and one possible crescent, then later 9 crescents. For whatever reason, Arnold's story changed over time, and it's clearly obvious that the earliest information is the best.

Alternate Conclusion:

The most common shapes of UFOs is still classified:
<https://www.vice.com/en/article/v7dnex/activist-publishes-redacted-version-of-classified-military-ufo-report>

In addition to that, there are at least 5 sources to confirm the extremely highly classified nature of UFOs, and this extends back at least as early as 1949:
https://np.reddit.com/r/aliens/comments/zp14fk/til_the_united_states_put_cameras_on_the_end_of/j0py7cj/

In this link (PDF), read under "DEVIOUS INTELLIGENCE AGENTS" where Arnold mentions a "threat" he received in 1952.

Kenneth Arnold himself claims he was threatened, but his daughter also said the same in 2011, although pinning down exactly who it was who threatened him was third hand information, and thus useless. However, she says in an interview with Paola Harris:

And of course my mother and my dad, truly I think, felt threatened for the rest of their lives. So I guess that would be one of the reasons he became kind of a recluse and refused to go anywhere and talk about it or anything. I even have a letter in my files written in my mother's own handwriting stating her fear that if they went to a UFO Convention in Mexico their plane might be shot down and

both of them killed. Now, looking back on this letter, my mother never did get over being threatened by the government.

<https://paolaharris.com/home-page/interview-of-the-month-kim-arnold>

Did Kenneth Arnold exaggerate a bit over time and warp the story to 9 crescents so the entire phenomenon could be debunked because he felt threatened? I would say probably not, but I can't rule it out. A more reasonable conclusion seems that his memory faded over time, but it does seem rather extreme in this instance. 9 saucers reported initially changed to 9 crescents. Maybe it's just an extreme case of memory distortion over time. Regardless of the cause, the original information from Arnold himself is obviously the most accurate.

Read more

38

.

28

Comments Section

sendmeyourtulips

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2y ago

I take a complicated view with Ken Arnold's story that only leaves questions. Although his was the first viral UFO report, hundreds of others reported seeing them too. It was, in many ways, the most important report because it coined the "flying saucer" term and Arnold's credibility was considered solid. So what's my problem?

His detailed account put those objects at least 20 miles away. This is what he wrote on July 8th 1947 (2 weeks later):

I observed them quite plainly, and I estimate my distance from them, which was almost at right angles, to be between twenty to twenty-five miles. I knew they must be very large to observe their shape at that distance, even on as clear a day as it was that Tuesday. In fact I compared a Zeus fastener or cowling tool I had in my pocket with them - holding it up on them and holding it up on the DC-4 - that I could observe at quite a distance to my left, and they seemed smaller than the DC-4; but, I should judge their span would have been as wide as the furthest engines on each side of the fuselage of the DC-4. (source)

20 miles away is 105000ft which is, in altitude terms, more than double what commercial airliners fly at. Even a huge 767 loses details at 50k ft. Imagine it's a clear day and you shade your eyes as you look up at a high altitude jet? Tiny, right? The SR-71 (wider than a DC-4) went to 85k ft and was practically invisible to the naked eye at that altitude. For his details to be visible the 9 objects would have to have been 3-4 times larger than modern airliners.

Arnold wrote how this lasted no more than 3 minutes and his estimates of speed were over a 1000mph. That would mean the objects travelled over 50 miles (calculator) in that time. It's difficult to imagine 9 fast-moving and shiny objects going unseen (bar Arnold) over such a distance and it suggests the only witness was Ken Arnold.

Did he make up a story that ran away from him? Was he mistaken? Were these objects really there or visionary? Was he the unwitting harbinger of the "summer of saucers" and cast in the role by the phenomenon? I've no idea.

11

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

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2y ago

If you were directly underneath the SR71, and thus only 85,000 feet away, you probably could have made it out if the atmosphere wasn't between you and it, but

I'd like a source that says it would be invisible since that isn't easy to locate. Arnold's actual speed estimate of the objects was about 1,800 mph, but he dropped that to 1,200 for the media to be very conservative. 1,200 was still an incredible speed in 1947. If anything, he may have been either a little closer to them than he thought, or they were a little larger than his estimate, or both, or it was entirely accurate. I don't buy the claim that he couldn't see them.

Arnold was at 10,000 feet altitude, as well as the objects, and you can see farther and better at this altitude. Air pollution, for example, decreases as altitude increases. It also depends on the shape of the object and it's orientation. A big round object seen on it's side would be easier to make out compared to an SR71 seen from a steep angle below (where most observers would be, not directly under it) and through the atmosphere. From the wikipedia on the Arnold sighting:

Sometimes he said he could see them on edge when they seemed so thin and flat they were practically invisible.

Also from your link, Arnold says this:

There was a DC-4 to the left and to the rear of me approximately fifteen miles distance, and I should judge, at 14,000 foot elevation.

The claim you're making is that pilots can't clearly make out another aircraft 15-20 miles from them at the same altitude, correct? You're saying the SR71 was invisible at 16 miles (looking straight up and through the atmosphere, however), so it should be fairly easy to ask a pilot whether they can make out the general shape of an aircraft 15-20 miles away from them at the same altitude. Pilots are supposed to have excellent vision, so I would imagine they probably could, but lets ask. We should probably round it down to 10-12 for fairness because we are comparing an almost perfectly round object seen on it's side versus an airplane level with another, and the objects were passing in front of mountains as well, not just sitting in the air.

Kenneth Arnold also wasn't the only witness.

June 24, 1947; Mt. Adams, Wash. (BBU 12) Afternoon. Just about the time that Kenneth Arnold lost sight of his objects, Fred Johnson, listed as a prospector, reported watching five or six disc-shaped craft as they flew over the Cascade Mountains. He said they were round with a slight tail and about 30 feet in diameter. They were not flying in any sort of formation and as they banked in a turn, the sunlight flashed off them. As they approached, Johnson noticed that his compass began to spin wildly. When the objects finally vanished in the distance, the compass returned to normal.

7
sendmeyourtulips

•

2y ago

If you were directly underneath the SR71, and thus only 85,000 feet away, you probably could have made it out if the atmosphere wasn't between you and it, but I'd like a source that says it would be invisible since that isn't easy to locate.

Right. I won't get bogged down on this because I didn't say it would be invisible and the distance Arnold described was 105000 feet minimum ("20 to 25 miles"). I used minimums in the comment so as not to load my bases. It would be 135000 feet at 25 miles and I don't know where you got the "15 miles" from. See if this helps you to visualise my point.

Arnold's actual speed estimate of the objects was about 1,800 mph, but he dropped that to 1,200 for the media to be very conservative.

I know. I went for minimums to avoid loading the bases.

Arnold was at 10,000 feet altitude, as well as the objects, and you can see farther and better at this altitude. Air pollution, for example, decreases as altitude increases. It also depends on the shape of the object and it's orientation.

I was using altitude to make it relatable because we all know what a high altitude plane looks like. Tiny! The same plane 20 miles away in any direction, or altitude, will remain very tiny and hard to distinguish the features he described - unless they were much, much larger than DC-4s.

We should probably round it down to 10-12 for fairness because we are comparing an almost perfectly round object seen on it's side versus an airplane level with another, and the objects were passing in front of mountains as well, not just sitting in the air.

He was clear in his estimates that the objects were "20 to 25 miles" away so why overrule his account by cutting that distance in half?

If you reread my first comment you should agree that it was accurate in the details and the points being made were fact-based.

Kenneth Arnold also wasn't the only witness.

The report was made after Arnold's. There were fewer objects (5-6 not 9) and they were considerably smaller than Arnold's "DC-4" sized objects.

4

9 more replies
DodgyDossierDealer

•

2y ago

Read "Saucers," by Chris Aubeck. He has written the definitive timeline of Kenneth Arnold's statements and when and how he got misquoted in an AP story.

5

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

2y ago

I'm sure he was misquoted somewhere or whatever, but his original statements directly by Arnold, both his own voice in audio and original drawing/text are available, and they don't match the claim that he saw "9 crescents," so the claim that he saw 9 crescents is false. But thanks for the share. I might pick that up.

4

Ok-Caregiver8239

•

2y ago

Google and check out the wood carving from Nuremberg Germany from like 1560 which clearly shows a UFO fight in the sky with one crashed on the ground with a multitude of people pointing up and looking at the happenings. I'm sure some d***** will say that oh they're just looking at stars okay so they had a star that crashed on the ground by the lake smoking?

2

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapée

OP

•

2y ago

That one, and this one from 1864 (reported in 1865) are the earliest UFO crashes I've come across: <https://www.loc.gov/resource/sn84027008/1865-11-05/ed-1/?sp=3&st=text&clip=31%2C24%2C1009%2C5069&ciw=1009&rot=0>

I'm sure there are probably other old cases.

1

u/derricktysonadams avatar
derricktysonadams

•

6mo ago

This sounds more like he saw a meteor than a UFO.

1

1 more reply

u/YourOverlords avatar
YourOverlords

•

2y ago

I always thought he saw some formation of US Mil tech taken from the Nazis. Like a formation of Horton Jets or something Jack Northrup was working on, namely the N-1M flying wing which could have had a jet engine by '47 as he made that in '40. Anyway, just a thought that's always been there for me.

2

[deleted]

•

2y ago

Thanks for your work. It might be useful to learn a bit more about how memory works. I'm not an expert, but I have prepared and questioned many of them. Memory isn't perfectly captured like a video that slowly degrades over time. Memory is actually pieces of information reconstructed every time it is recalled. It's never a wholly accurate portrayal. To use the video example, it would only capture a certain angle. A certain context and constraint on information. Now imagine the software on the video player gets upgraded over time and the original file that was compressed to certain important still images that are stitched together is processed by the upgraded software. The playback would change. So it is with a person. As Arnold changed, his memory would change to some degree as well. Many people memorize the story of the events and retell it again and again consistently. This likely means that they aren't actually recalling the event. Just the words. Just the story. The story frames the memory. It isn't actually an objective indicator of increased reliability. It is completely normal for Arnold to think about the images he had in his mind and shape them with his understanding over time. Especially if the recall would merit better contextual acceptance. People don't like being shunned and they don't like states of anxiety. They don't just give into pressure, they literally reshape the events in their minds eye to accord with the context. It is unconscious and unavoidable to some degree. That's how we generate ourselves in time. As such, it's true to some extent with all perception. The lags and filters are just different. Evidence from a witness isn't true or false. It is reliable and valuable within a context of proof. So we as a group do the same thing with testimony as an individual does with memory. We construct a framework of understand and attempt to minimize inaccuracies. As we learn more, we literally perceive more. Our software can build a better model out of the bits of information we have available to us. Minds (individual and/or collective) then shape and process the details. Evidence and proof is an active process shaped by a shared culture of understanding. No class of evidence is per se worthless. It may be suspect, but it depends on other factors to determine how

we treat evidence. The same is true of memory, and to lesser degree, perception itself (which includes hands on experience—sorry REAL evidence kooks). Arnold was an impeccable witness. He described what he saw to the best of his ability. Was his understanding of he saw sufficient to provide a perfect description? No. But he always forthrightly did the best he could. He was an honest man who always tried to explain what he observed in very difficult and changing circumstances. The man is a hero.

3
u/MKULTRA_Escaper avatar
MKULTRA_Escaper
OP

•
2y ago
Do you know anyone who shares a memory you had 10, 20, or 30 years ago? Compare notes now. There will often be some significant differences, especially if you have them write down their memory and you write down yours, then compare. They can bleed together a bit if you try to recall them both in real time. The more time that passes, the more differences there should be.

3
u/TPconnoisseur avatar
TPconnoisseur

•
2y ago
Arnold also went on to research the Maury Island Incident which happened a few days before his sighting and 40 miles to the NW. Whatever he saw stuck with him.

5
MaxDamage75

•
2y ago
By the description it seems he saw 9 Northrop YB-49 . First versions of single wing jets had poor elevation stability so they were flying like skipping stones.

1
u/Scrubunit avatar
Scrubunit

•
2y ago
No way 9 Northrop YB-49s ever flew in formation

4
MyAssDoesHeeHawww

•
2y ago
The little sketch he made was kinda "saucer in the front, crescent in the back".

4
u/MKULTRA_Escaper avatar
MKULTRA_Escaper
OP

•
2y ago
Opposite of a crescent if we're being technical, but I laughed way too hard at that.

2
u/Sentry579 avatar
Sentry579

•

2y ago

Further background on Kenneth Arnold:

Kenneth Arnold's Flying Saucer Philosophy

1

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Kenneth Arnold most likely did see flying discs, and his memory faded quickly over several years, morphing was was basically described as a saucer into something resembling a crescent moon. The overall evidence strongly suggests this.

r/ufo icon

r/ufo

•

4y ago

Kenneth Arnold most likely did see flying discs, and his memory faded quickly over several years, morphing was was basically described as a saucer into something resembling a crescent moon. The overall evidence strongly suggests this.

23 upvotes · 48 comments

If 'flying saucer' is a misreport of Kenneth Arnold's UFO, why did people suddenly starting seeing them?

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r/UFOs

•

1y ago

If 'flying saucer' is a misreport of Kenneth Arnold's UFO, why did people suddenly starting seeing them?

22 upvotes · 40 comments

James "the US has access to interior of an unknown origin craft" Lacatski writes that the Tic Tac pilots had paranormal effects. Kenneth Arnold also. Also:

"Consciousness, paranormal phenomena, and psychic effects are closely related to UAP and cannot be dismissed. The relationship is unavoidable"

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

3mo ago

James "the US has access to interior of an unknown origin craft" Lacatski writes that the Tic Tac pilots had paranormal effects. Kenneth Arnold also. Also:

"Consciousness, paranormal phenomena, and psychic effects are closely related to UAP and cannot be dismissed. The relationship is unavoidable"

493 upvotes · 87 comments

On the anniversary of the inadvertent disclosure of a flying saucer in Roswell NM, Col. Philip Corso, the highest ranking military officer

(intelligence/nuclear command) disclosed that he had first hand contact with NHI and their engineered craft that was tech not of this world.

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

6mo ago

On the anniversary of the inadvertent disclosure of a flying saucer in Roswell NM, Col. Philip Corso, the highest ranking military officer (intelligence/nuclear command) disclosed that he had first hand contact with NHI and their engineered craft that was tech not of this world.

r/UFOs - On the anniversary of the inadvertent disclosure of a flying saucer in Roswell NM, Col. Philip Corso, the highest ranking military officer (intelligence/nuclear command) disclosed that he had first hand contact with NHI and their engineered craft that was tech not of this world.

youtu

370 upvotes · 47 comments

Kenneth Arnold and his description of UFOs

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

3y ago

Kenneth Arnold and his description of UFOs

20 upvotes · 45 comments

The Kenneth Arnold sighting

r/aliens icon

r/aliens

•

2y ago

The Kenneth Arnold sighting

5 upvotes · 14 comments

Lt. Col. Dwayne Arneson who held a TOP SECRET/SCI clearance confirms that UFOs have disabled nukes: "I am convinced that somebody out there is trying to send us a message."

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

7mo ago

Lt. Col. Dwayne Arneson who held a TOP SECRET/SCI clearance confirms that UFOs have disabled nukes: "I am convinced that somebody out there is trying to send us a message."

r/UFOs - Lt. Col. Dwayne Arneson who held a TOP SECRET/SCI clearance confirms that UFOs have disabled nukes: "I am convinced that somebody out there is trying to send us a message."

2.6K upvotes · 399 comments

The Kenneth Arnold sighting

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

2y ago

The Kenneth Arnold sighting

16 upvotes · 14 comments

He Ran The Pentagon's Secret UFO Program - And Says We've Been Played : Dr.

James Lacatski (PART 1)

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

2mo ago

He Ran The Pentagon's Secret UFO Program - And Says We've Been Played : Dr.

James Lacatski (PART 1)

r/UFOs - He Ran The Pentagon's Secret UFO Program - And Says We've Been Played :

Dr. James Lacatski (PART 1)

youtu

200 upvotes · 59 comments

Canadian farmer sees disc-shaped UFOs on his farm in 1974: "There was five of them and there was only one of me, and gee whiz I was scared stiff. I didn't know what to do... All of a sudden, the sucker started to lift off the ground... They just took off as a flash, they were gone."

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

4mo ago

Canadian farmer sees disc-shaped UFOs on his farm in 1974: "There was five of them and there was only one of me, and gee whiz I was scared stiff. I didn't know what to do... All of a sudden, the sucker started to lift off the ground... They just took off as a flash, they were gone."

225 upvotes · 29 comments

Has anyone ever been embarrassed by their interest in UFOs and aliens?

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

6mo ago

Has anyone ever been embarrassed by their interest in UFOs and aliens?

220 upvotes · 218 comments

UFO Whistleblower recounts his personal encounter with a large triangular UFO.

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

4mo ago

UFO Whistleblower recounts his personal encounter with a large triangular UFO.

r/UFOs - UFO Whistleblower recounts his personal encounter with a large triangular UFO.

8K upvotes · 806 comments

Direct links to historical newspaper articles on UFOs predating the Kenneth Arnold sighting, 1873-1946, Part 2

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•

1y ago

Direct links to historical newspaper articles on UFOs predating the Kenneth Arnold sighting, 1873-1946, Part 2

131 upvotes · 16 comments

A highly classified Air Force report from 1948 titled "Estimate of the Situation" which concluded that UFOs were likely EXTRATERRESTRIAL in origin is about to be made public for the first time by National Archives.

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A highly classified Air Force report from 1948 titled "Estimate of the Situation" which concluded that UFOs were likely EXTRATERRESTRIAL in origin is about to be made public for the first time by National Archives.

r/UFOs - A highly classified Air Force report from 1948 titled "Estimate of the Situation" which concluded that UFOs were likely EXTRATERRESTRIAL in origin is about to be made public for the first time by National Archives.

1.1K upvotes · 70 comments

The Biggest Secret in Human History: What Credible People Have Said About UFOs

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The Biggest Secret in Human History: What Credible People Have Said About UFOs

286 upvotes · 48 comments

To all newcomers to this topic: UFOs and NHIs are real. Here is a list of the most credible cases - and a call to finally move past this part of the discussion. Please share your thoughts.

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6mo ago

To all newcomers to this topic: UFOs and NHIs are real. Here is a list of the most credible cases - and a call to finally move past this part of the discussion. Please share your thoughts.

914 upvotes · 408 comments

US gov't plane barely dodged a football sized cylindrical UFO last year. Pilot

goes public for first time with audio of encounter. Says after passing the object they registered it 60 miles away. Object then suddenly turns around and hops back and forth 50 miles towards the plane "like hopscotch".

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8mo ago

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2.5K upvotes · 227 comments

This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UFOs since the 50's

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5mo ago

This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UFOs since the 50's

r/UFOs - This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UFOs since the 50's

youtu

929 upvotes · 291 comments

This one is a bit wild ngl - in 1967, two teens in Idaho said a UFO with 2 beings dragged their car into a field and one of the beings got inside the car without opening the door. It's weird, detailed, and they had a witness back up the claims. Curious what you all think.

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6mo ago

This one is a bit wild ngl - in 1967, two teens in Idaho said a UFO with 2 beings dragged their car into a field and one of the beings got inside the car without opening the door. It's weird, detailed, and they had a witness back up the claims. Curious what you all think.

r/UFOs - This one is a bit wild ngl - in 1967, two teens in Idaho said a UFO with 2 beings dragged their car into a field and one of the beings got inside the car without opening the door. It's weird, detailed, and they had a witness back up the claims. Curious what you all think.

thehiddenarchive

98 upvotes · 14 comments

Most famous UFO origin

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6mo ago

Most famous UFO origin

227 upvotes · 186 comments

For Skeptics: You Don't Have to Believe in UFOs to Prepare for Ontological Disruption

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7d ago

For Skeptics: You Don't Have to Believe in UFOs to Prepare for Ontological Disruption

r/UFOs - For Skeptics: You Don't Have to Believe in UFOs to Prepare for Ontological Disruption

substack

173 upvotes · 87 comments

Former nuclear security officer remembers how everything got quieter as a UFO flew above: "As it approached and came over us, it actually deadened sound wherever it moved... Almost like when you stick your head underwater... As soon as it was clear of us, that's when sound returned..."

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2mo ago

Former nuclear security officer remembers how everything got quieter as a UFO flew above: "As it approached and came over us, it actually deadened sound wherever it moved... Almost like when you stick your head underwater... As soon as it was clear of us, that's when sound returned..."

596 upvotes · 66 comments

Police Detective Testifies On UFO Events Witnessed By Police Officers. Cases of UFOs the size of football fields flying silently and dematerializing.

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20d ago

Police Detective Testifies On UFO Events Witnessed By Police Officers. Cases of UFOs the size of football fields flying silently and dematerializing.

r/UFOs - Police Detective Testifies On UFO Events Witnessed By Police Officers. Cases of UFOs the size of football fields flying silently and dematerializing.

482 upvotes · 48 comments

Academic Hit Job: How Researchers Twisted Facts to Discredit UFO Research -

"What appears at first glance to be a scholarly analysis quickly reveals itself as an exercise in academic gatekeeping, where legitimate questions about unexplained aerial phenomena are casually dismissed as mere conspiracy"

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9mo ago

Academic Hit Job: How Researchers Twisted Facts to Discredit UFO Research -

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r/UFOs - Academic Hit Job: How Researchers Twisted Facts to Discredit UFO Research - "What appears at first glance to be a scholarly analysis quickly reveals itself as an exercise in academic gatekeeping, where legitimate questions about unexplained aerial phenomena are casually dismissed as mere conspiracy"

132 upvotes · 33 comments

This whole UFO disclosure is one giant psyop and everyone is falling for it.

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1mo ago

This whole UFO disclosure is one giant psyop and everyone is falling for it.

51 comments

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r/UFOs

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Kenneth Arnold's story went from 9 discs/saucers, to 8 discs and one possible crescent-shaped object, finally to 9 crescents. Today, people claim Arnold was misquoted to "debunk" flying saucers, and this is the only exception to the rule "always go with earliest information" that debunkers make. : r/UFOs

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2y ago

MKULTRA_Escaper

Kenneth Arnold's story went from 9 discs/saucers, to 8 discs and one possible crescent-shaped object, finally to 9 crescents. Today, people claim Arnold was misquoted to "debunk" flying saucers, and this is the only exception to the rule "always go with earliest information" that debunkers make.

With all of the contradictory information out there about Kenneth Arnold, and the fact that his sighting is the first modern UFO report that received widespread publicity (even though UFOs go back at least a thousand years), I think it's important to take a second look at this sighting.

As debunkers always say, memory fades over time, so it's very curious why they go with the latest version of Kenneth Arnold's sighting in order to debunk flying saucers, rather than the earliest information fresh from his memory, which you'd think they would prefer. As the debunker argument goes, Arnold saw 9 crescents and claimed he was misquoted, meaning that the entire flying saucer phenomenon is a result of media hysteria.

Kenneth Arnold actually seems like a textbook example of a person whose memory faded over time. This happens to everyone, some much more significantly than others. This is the exact reason why it's so important to gather information about a witness early, then you have more skepticism of their claims as time goes on. It is expected that the witness's story will change over time, and this seems to be exactly what happened with Arnold. Another curious behavior that I have seen is that debunkers will use a story that changed over time to dismiss the entire story, when in fact this is expected anyway as they themselves claim.

Kenneth Arnold did, in fact, use the terms "saucer" and "disk" early on to describe the shape of the objects he witnessed, and "saucer skipping" described the movement as well. Kenneth Arnold's story went from 9 saucers or disks, to 8 saucers/disks and one possible crescent, then later on it turned into 9 crescents. Just scrap all of that and go with the earliest information and you're good to go.

The timeline:

June 26, 1947, two days after the sighting, Arnold on recorded audio: "They looked something like a pie plate that was cut in half with a convex triangle in the rear." <http://www.konsulting.com/K-Arnold%20Layer-3.WAV> This identically describes his own drawing (see below). You cut a pie plate in half, then add a triangle in the rear. Instead of an entire pie plate, or entire "saucer" if you will, there are two little bits missing.

1947, some one or two weeks after the sighting, Kenneth Arnold creates a drawing, containing a top and side view with a written description, and gives this to the Army. The object looks like 95 percent of a flying saucer: <https://imgur.com/a/ETRRFB1> (two images, one contains red circle added by me)

1952, In Arnold's book *The Coming of the Saucers* page 21 and 22, he says:

For some reason, and I don't know why, I did not tell them that one of the flying disks in the formation I observed appeared different from the rest. In fact, I never even told Doris. I thought it was the angle from which I observed this particular one which made it look different and I wasn't completely positive about it. It was rather odd too, because I kept thinking about this one flying saucer that looked different and I always intended to tell someone about it. <https://archive.org/details/TheComingOfTheSaucers/page/n11/mode/2up>

And this:

According to Jerome Clark,[3][4] Arnold described them as a series of objects with convex shapes, though he later revealed that one object differed by being crescent-shaped. Several years later, Arnold would state he likened their movement to saucers skipping on water, without comparing their actual shapes to saucers,[5] but initial quotes from him do indeed have him comparing the shape to a "saucer", "disc", "pie pan", or "half moon", or generally convex and thin. [2] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenneth_Arnold_UFO_sighting

1978, February and March, Arnold is interviewed by telephone and now claims he saw nine crescents:

ARNOLD: No, I've seen them seven or eight times, and my first impression is this: The ones that I first reported over Mount Rainier were definitely crescent-shaped type things, with a pulsating thing in the middle of them. <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwii-uDBgdeBAXWLYkEHRIBAVcQFnoECBAQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocuments.theblackvault.com%2Fdocuments%2FMUFON%2Fpratt%2FKennethArnold.pdf&usg=A0vVaw1aIISZhtJ490doSgcwl9LS&opi=89978449>

Conclusion:

Kenneth Arnold probably did see 9 flying saucers/disks, but since the idea of "flying saucers" was not in the media or his head at the time, he had trouble understanding how they could be flying, so he may have incorrectly remembered a tiny bit of "wing" on the saucers, but the accuracy of it still looks like 90-95 percent. Alternatively, perhaps there is a tiny bit of wing on all saucers, but most people think of the object as a perfect saucer, so they are inaccurate by perhaps 5-10 percent.

Regardless of which it is, this crescent myth has been overwhelmingly debunked. It is simply not possible that 9 discs can turn into 8 discs and one possible crescent, then later 9 crescents. For whatever reason, Arnold's story changed over time, and it's clearly obvious that the earliest information is the best.

Alternate Conclusion:

The most common shapes of UFOs is still classified: <https://www.vice.com/en/article/v7dnex/activist-publishes-redacted-version-of->

classified-military-ufo-report

In addition to that, there are at least 5 sources to confirm the extremely highly classified nature of UFOs, and this extends back at least as early as 1949:

https://np.reddit.com/r/aliens/comments/zp14fk/til_the_united_states_put_cameras_on_the_end_of/j0py7cj/

In this link (PDF), read under "DEVIOUS INTELLIGENCE AGENTS" where Arnold mentions a "threat" he received in 1952.

Kenneth Arnold himself claims he was threatened, but his daughter also said the same in 2011, although pinning down exactly who it was who threatened him was third hand information, and thus useless. However, she says in an interview with Paola Harris:

And of course my mother and my dad, truly I think, felt threatened for the rest of their lives. So I guess that would be one of the reasons he became kind of a recluse and refused to go anywhere and talk about it or anything. I even have a letter in my files written in my mother's own handwriting stating her fear that if they went to a UFO Convention in Mexico their plane might be shot down and both of them killed. Now, looking back on this letter, my mother never did get over being threatened by the government.

<https://paolaharris.com/home-page/interview-of-the-month-kim-arnold>

Did Kenneth Arnold exaggerate a bit over time and warp the story to 9 crescents so the entire phenomenon could be debunked because he felt threatened? I would say probably not, but I can't rule it out. A more reasonable conclusion seems that his memory faded over time, but it does seem rather extreme in this instance. 9 saucers reported initially changed to 9 crescents. Maybe it's just an extreme case of memory distortion over time. Regardless of the cause, the original information from Arnold himself is obviously the most accurate.

38

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28

Comments Section

sendmeyourtulips

•

2y ago

I take a complicated view with Ken Arnold's story that only leaves questions. Although his was the first viral UFO report, hundreds of others reported seeing them too. It was, in many ways, the most important report because it coined the "flying saucer" term and Arnold's credibility was considered solid. So what's my problem?

His detailed account put those objects at least 20 miles away. This is what he wrote on July 8th 1947 (2 weeks later):

I observed them quite plainly, and I estimate my distance from them, which was almost at right angles, to be between twenty to twenty-five miles. I knew they must be very large to observe their shape at that distance, even on as clear a day as it was that Tuesday. In fact I compared a Zeus fastener or cowling tool I had in my pocket with them - holding it up on them and holding it up on the DC-4 - that I could observe at quite a distance to my left, and they seemed smaller than the DC-4; but, I should judge their span would have been as wide as the furthest engines on each side of the fuselage of the DC-4. (source)

20 miles away is 105000ft which is, in altitude terms, more than double what commercial airliners fly at. Even a huge 767 loses details at 50k ft. Imagine it's a clear day and you shade your eyes as you look up at a high altitude jet? Tiny, right? The SR-71 (wider than a DC-4) went to 85k ft and was practically invisible to the naked eye at that altitude. For his details to be visible the 9 objects would have to have been 3-4 times larger than modern airliners.

Arnold wrote how this lasted no more than 3 minutes and his estimates of speed were over a 1000mph. That would mean the objects travelled over 50 miles (calculator) in that time. It's difficult to imagine 9 fast-moving and shiny objects going unseen (bar Arnold) over such a distance and it suggests the only witness was Ken Arnold.

Did he make up a story that ran away from him? Was he mistaken? Were these objects really there or visionary? Was he the unwitting harbinger of the "summer of saucers" and cast in the role by the phenomenon? I've no idea.

11

u/MKULTRA_Escapée avatar

MKULTRA_Escapée

OP

•

2y ago

If you were directly underneath the SR71, and thus only 85,000 feet away, you probably could have made it out if the atmosphere wasn't between you and it, but I'd like a source that says it would be invisible since that isn't easy to locate. Arnold's actual speed estimate of the objects was about 1,800 mph, but he dropped that to 1,200 for the media to be very conservative. 1,200 was still an incredible speed in 1947. If anything, he may have been either a little closer to them than he thought, or they were a little larger than his estimate, or both, or it was entirely accurate. I don't buy the claim that he couldn't see them.

Arnold was at 10,000 feet altitude, as well as the objects, and you can see farther and better at this altitude. Air pollution, for example, decreases as altitude increases. It also depends on the shape of the object and it's orientation. A big round object seen on it's side would be easier to make out compared to an SR71 seen from a steep angle below (where most observers would be, not directly under it) and through the atmosphere. From the wikipedia on the Arnold sighting:

Sometimes he said he could see them on edge when they seemed so thin and flat they were practically invisible.

Also from your link, Arnold says this:

There was a DC-4 to the left and to the rear of me approximately fifteen miles distance, and I should judge, at 14,000 foot elevation.

The claim you're making is that pilots can't clearly make out another aircraft 15-20 miles from them at the same altitude, correct? You're saying the SR71 was invisible at 16 miles (looking straight up and through the atmosphere, however), so it should be fairly easy to ask a pilot whether they can make out the general shape of an aircraft 15-20 miles away from them at the same altitude. Pilots are supposed to have excellent vision, so I would imagine they probably could, but lets ask. We should probably round it down to 10-12 for fairness because we are comparing an almost perfectly round object seen on it's side versus an airplane level with another, and the objects were passing in front of mountains as well, not just sitting in the air.

Kenneth Arnold also wasn't the only witness.

June 24, 1947; Mt. Adams, Wash. (BBU 12) Afternoon. Just about the time that Kenneth Arnold lost sight of his objects, Fred Johnson, listed as a prospector, reported watching five or six disc-shaped craft as they flew over the Cascade Mountains. He said they were round with a slight tail and about 30 feet in diameter. They were not flying in any sort of formation and as they banked in a turn, the sunlight flashed off them. As they approached, Johnson noticed that his compass began to spin wildly. When the objects finally vanished in the

distance, the compass returned to normal.

7

sendmeyourtulips

•

2y ago

If you were directly underneath the SR71, and thus only 85,000 feet away, you probably could have made it out if the atmosphere wasn't between you and it, but I'd like a source that says it would be invisible since that isn't easy to locate.

Right. I won't get bogged down on this because I didn't say it would be invisible and the distance Arnold described was 105000 feet minimum ("20 to 25 miles"). I used minimums in the comment so as not to load my bases. It would be 135000 feet at 25 miles and I don't know where you got the "15 miles" from. See if this helps you to visualise my point.

Arnold's actual speed estimate of the objects was about 1,800 mph, but he dropped that to 1,200 for the media to be very conservative.

I know. I went for minimums to avoid loading the bases.

Arnold was at 10,000 feet altitude, as well as the objects, and you can see farther and better at this altitude. Air pollution, for example, decreases as altitude increases. It also depends on the shape of the object and it's orientation.

I was using altitude to make it relatable because we all know what a high altitude plane looks like. Tiny! The same plane 20 miles away in any direction, or altitude, will remain very tiny and hard to distinguish the features he described - unless they were much, much larger than DC-4s.

We should probably round it down to 10-12 for fairness because we are comparing an almost perfectly round object seen on it's side versus an airplane level with another, and the objects were passing in front of mountains as well, not just sitting in the air.

He was clear in his estimates that the objects were "20 to 25 miles" away so why overrule his account by cutting that distance in half?

If you reread my first comment you should agree that it was accurate in the details and the points being made were fact-based.

Kenneth Arnold also wasn't the only witness.

The report was made after Arnold's. There were fewer objects (5-6 not 9) and they were considerably smaller than Arnold's "DC-4" sized objects.

4

9 more replies

DodgyDossierDealer

•

2y ago

Read "Saucers," by Chris Aubeck. He has written the definitive timeline of Kenneth Arnold's statements and when and how he got misquoted in an AP story.

5

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

2y ago

I'm sure he was misquoted somewhere or whatever, but his original statements directly by Arnold, both his own voice in audio and original drawing/text are available, and they don't match the claim that he saw "9 crescents," so the claim that he saw 9 crescents is false. But thanks for the share. I might pick that up.

4

Ok-Caregiver8239

•

2y ago

Google and check out the wood carving from Nuremberg Germany from like 1560 which clearly shows a UFO fight in the sky with one crashed on the ground with a multitude of people pointing up and looking at the happenings. I'm sure some d***** will say that oh they're just looking at stars okay so they had a star that crashed on the ground by the lake smoking?

2

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

2y ago

That one, and this one from 1864 (reported in 1865) are the earliest UFO crashes I've come across: <https://www.loc.gov/resource/sn84027008/1865-11-05/ed-1/?sp=3&st=text&clip=31%2C24%2C1009%2C5069&ciw=1009&rot=0>

I'm sure there are probably other old cases.

1

u/derricktysonadams avatar

derricktysonadams

•

6mo ago

This sounds more like he saw a meteor than a UFO.

1

1 more reply

MaxDamage75

•

2y ago

By the description it seems he saw 9 Northrop YB-49 . First versions of single wing jets had poor elevation stability so they were flying like skipping stones.

1

u/Scrubunit avatar

Scrubunit

•

2y ago

No way 9 Northrop YB-49s ever flew in formation

4

[deleted]

•

2y ago

Thanks for your work. It might be useful to learn a bit more about how memory works. I'm not an expert, but I have prepared and questioned many of them. Memory isn't perfectly captured like a video that slowly degrades over time. Memory is actually pieces of information reconstructed every time it is recalled. It's never a wholly accurate portrayal. To use the video example, it

would only capture a certain angle. A certain context and constraint on information. Now imagine the software on the video player gets upgraded over time and the original file that was compressed to certain important still images that are stitched together is processed by the upgraded software. The playback would change. So it is with a person. As Arnold changed, his memory would change to some degree as well. Many people memorize the story of the events and retell it again and again consistently. This likely means that they aren't actually recalling the event. Just the words. Just the story. The story frames the memory. It isn't actually an objective indicator of increased reliability. It is completely normal for Arnold to think about the images he had in his mind and shape them with his understanding over time. Especially if the recall would merit better contextual acceptance. People don't like being shunned and they don't like states of anxiety. They don't just give into pressure, they literally reshape the events in their minds eye to accord with the context. It is unconscious and unavoidable to some degree. That's how we generate ourselves in time. As such, it's true to some extent with all perception. The lags and filters are just different. Evidence from a witness isn't true or false. It is reliable and valuable within a context of proof. So we as a group do the same thing with testimony as an individual does with memory. We construct a framework of understand and attempt to minimize inaccuracies. As we learn more, we literally perceive more. Our software can build a better model out of the bits of information we have available to us. Minds (individual and/or collective) then shape and process the details. Evidence and proof is an active process shaped by a shared culture of understanding. No class of evidence is per se worthless. It may be suspect, but it depends on other factors to determine how we treat evidence. The same is true of memory, and to lesser degree, perception itself (which includes hands on experience—sorry REAL evidence kooks). Arnold was an impeccable witness. He described what he saw to the best of his ability. Was his understanding of he saw sufficient to provide a perfect description? No. But he always forthrightly did the best he could. He was an honest man who always tried to explain what he observed in very difficult and changing circumstances. The man is a hero.

3
u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee
OP

•
2y ago
Do you know anyone who shares a memory you had 10, 20, or 30 years ago? Compare notes now. There will often be some significant differences, especially if you have them write down their memory and you write down yours, then compare. They can bleed together a bit if you try to recall them both in real time. The more time that passes, the more differences there should be.

3
u/TPconnoisseur avatar
TPconnoisseur

•
2y ago
Arnold also went on to research the Maury Island Incident which happened a few days before his sighting and 40 miles to the NW. Whatever he saw stuck with him.

5
u/YourOverlords avatar
YourOverlords

•
2y ago
I always thought he saw some formation of US Mil tech taken from the Nazis. Like a formation of Horton Jets or something Jack Northrup was working on, namely the N-1M flying wing which could have had a jet engine by '47 as he made that in '40. Anyway, just a thought that's always been there for me.

2

MyAssDoesHeeHawww

•

2y ago

The little sketch he made was kinda "saucer in the front, crescent in the back".

4

u/MKULTRA_Escapée avatar

MKULTRA_Escapée

OP

•

2y ago

Opposite of a crescent if we're being technical, but I laughed way too hard at that.

2

u/Sentry579 avatar

Sentry579

•

2y ago

Further background on Kenneth Arnold:

Kenneth Arnold's Flying Saucer Philosophy

1

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Kenneth Arnold most likely did see flying discs, and his memory faded quickly over several years, morphing was was basically described as a saucer into something resembling a crescent moon. The overall evidence strongly suggests this.

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4y ago

Kenneth Arnold most likely did see flying discs, and his memory faded quickly over several years, morphing was was basically described as a saucer into something resembling a crescent moon. The overall evidence strongly suggests this.

23 upvotes · 48 comments

If 'flying saucer' is a misreport of Kenneth Arnold's UFO, why did people suddenly starting seeing them?

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r/UFOs

•

1y ago

If 'flying saucer' is a misreport of Kenneth Arnold's UFO, why did people suddenly starting seeing them?

22 upvotes · 40 comments

James "the US has access to interior of an unknown origin craft" Lacatski writes

that the Tic Tac pilots had paranormal effects. Kenneth Arnold also. Also:
"Consciousness, paranormal phenomena, and psychic effects are closely related to UAP and cannot be dismissed. The relationship is unavoidable"

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

3mo ago

James "the US has access to interior of an unknown origin craft" Lacatski writes that the Tic Tac pilots had paranormal effects. Kenneth Arnold also. Also:

"Consciousness, paranormal phenomena, and psychic effects are closely related to UAP and cannot be dismissed. The relationship is unavoidable"

493 upvotes · 87 comments

On the anniversary of the inadvertent disclosure of a flying saucer in Roswell NM, Col. Philip Corso, the highest ranking military officer (intelligence/nuclear command) disclosed that he had first hand contact with NHI and their engineered craft that was tech not of this world.

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6mo ago

On the anniversary of the inadvertent disclosure of a flying saucer in Roswell NM, Col. Philip Corso, the highest ranking military officer (intelligence/nuclear command) disclosed that he had first hand contact with NHI and their engineered craft that was tech not of this world.

r/UFOs - On the anniversary of the inadvertent disclosure of a flying saucer in Roswell NM, Col. Philip Corso, the highest ranking military officer (intelligence/nuclear command) disclosed that he had first hand contact with NHI and their engineered craft that was tech not of this world.

youtu

370 upvotes · 47 comments

Kenneth Arnold and his description of UFOs

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

3y ago

Kenneth Arnold and his description of UFOs

20 upvotes · 45 comments

The Kenneth Arnold sighting

r/aliens icon

r/aliens

•

2y ago

The Kenneth Arnold sighting

5 upvotes · 14 comments

Lt. Col. Dwayne Arneson who held a TOP SECRET/SCI clearance confirms that UFOs have disabled nukes: "I am convinced that somebody out there is trying to send us a message."

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r/UFOs

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7mo ago

Lt. Col. Dwayne Arneson who held a TOP SECRET/SCI clearance confirms that UFOs have disabled nukes: "I am convinced that somebody out there is trying to send us a message."

r/UFOs - Lt. Col. Dwayne Arneson who held a TOP SECRET/SCI clearance confirms that UFOs have disabled nukes: "I am convinced that somebody out there is trying to send us a message."

2.6K upvotes · 399 comments

The Kenneth Arnold sighting

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

2y ago

The Kenneth Arnold sighting

16 upvotes · 14 comments

He Ran The Pentagon's Secret UFO Program - And Says We've Been Played : Dr. James Lacatski (PART 1)

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2mo ago

He Ran The Pentagon's Secret UFO Program - And Says We've Been Played : Dr. James Lacatski (PART 1)

r/UFOs - He Ran The Pentagon's Secret UFO Program - And Says We've Been Played : Dr. James Lacatski (PART 1)

youtu

200 upvotes · 59 comments

Canadian farmer sees disc-shaped UFOs on his farm in 1974: "There was five of them and there was only one of me, and gee whiz I was scared stiff. I didn't know what to do... All of a sudden, the sucker started to lift off the ground... They just took off as a flash, they were gone."

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4mo ago

Canadian farmer sees disc-shaped UFOs on his farm in 1974: "There was five of them and there was only one of me, and gee whiz I was scared stiff. I didn't know what to do... All of a sudden, the sucker started to lift off the ground... They just took off as a flash, they were gone."

225 upvotes · 29 comments

Has anyone ever been embarrassed by their interest in UFOs and aliens?

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6mo ago

Has anyone ever been embarrassed by their interest in UFOs and aliens?

220 upvotes · 218 comments

UFO Whistleblower recounts his personal encounter with a large triangular UFO.

r/UFOs icon

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4mo ago

UFO Whistleblower recounts his personal encounter with a large triangular UFO.

r/UFOs - UFO Whistleblower recounts his personal encounter with a large triangular UFO.

8K upvotes · 806 comments

Direct links to historical newspaper articles on UFOs predating the Kenneth Arnold sighting, 1873-1946, Part 2

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1y ago

Direct links to historical newspaper articles on UFOs predating the Kenneth Arnold sighting, 1873-1946, Part 2

131 upvotes · 16 comments

A highly classified Air Force report from 1948 titled "Estimate of the Situation" which concluded that UFOs were likely EXTRATERRESTRIAL in origin is about to be made public for the first time by National Archives.

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3mo ago

A highly classified Air Force report from 1948 titled "Estimate of the Situation" which concluded that UFOs were likely EXTRATERRESTRIAL in origin is about to be made public for the first time by National Archives.

r/UFOs - A highly classified Air Force report from 1948 titled "Estimate of the Situation" which concluded that UFOs were likely EXTRATERRESTRIAL in origin is about to be made public for the first time by National Archives.

1.1K upvotes · 70 comments

The Biggest Secret in Human History: What Credible People Have Said About UFOs
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9mo ago

The Biggest Secret in Human History: What Credible People Have Said About UFOs
286 upvotes · 48 comments

To all newcomers to this topic: UFOs and NHIs are real. Here is a list of the most credible cases - and a call to finally move past this part of the discussion. Please share your thoughts.

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6mo ago

To all newcomers to this topic: UFOs and NHIs are real. Here is a list of the most credible cases - and a call to finally move past this part of the discussion. Please share your thoughts.

914 upvotes · 408 comments

US gov't plane barely dodged a football sized cylindrical UFO last year. Pilot goes public for first time with audio of encounter. Says after passing the object they registered it 60 miles away. Object then suddenly turns around and hops back and forth 50 miles towards the plane "like hopscotch".

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8mo ago

US gov't plane barely dodged a football sized cylindrical UFO last year. Pilot goes public for first time with audio of encounter. Says after passing the object they registered it 60 miles away. Object then suddenly turns around and hops back and forth 50 miles towards the plane "like hopscotch".

r/UFOs - US gov't plane barely dodged a football sized cylindrical UFO last year. Pilot goes public for first time with audio of encounter. Says after passing the object they registered it 60 miles away. Object then suddenly turns around and hops back and forth 50 miles towards the plane "like hopscotch".

2.5K upvotes · 227 comments

This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UFOs since the 50's

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5mo ago

This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UFOs since the 50's

r/UFOs - This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UFOs since the 50's

youtu

929 upvotes · 291 comments

This one is a bit wild ngl - in 1967, two teens in Idaho said a UFO with 2 beings dragged their car into a field and one of the beings got inside the car without opening the door. It's weird, detailed, and they had a witness back up the claims. Curious what you all think.

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6mo ago

This one is a bit wild ngl - in 1967, two teens in Idaho said a UFO with 2 beings dragged their car into a field and one of the beings got inside the car without opening the door. It's weird, detailed, and they had a witness back up the claims. Curious what you all think.

r/UFOs - This one is a bit wild ngl - in 1967, two teens in Idaho said a UFO with 2 beings dragged their car into a field and one of the beings got inside the car without opening the door. It's weird, detailed, and they had a witness back up the claims. Curious what you all think.

thehiddenarchive

98 upvotes · 14 comments

Most famous UFO origin

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6mo ago

Most famous UFO origin

227 upvotes · 186 comments

For Skeptics: You Don't Have to Believe in UFOs to Prepare for Ontological Disruption

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For Skeptics: You Don't Have to Believe in UFOs to Prepare for Ontological Disruption

r/UFOs - For Skeptics: You Don't Have to Believe in UFOs to Prepare for Ontological Disruption

substack

173 upvotes · 87 comments

Former nuclear security officer remembers how everything got quieter as a UFO flew above: "As it approached and came over us, it actually deadened sound wherever it moved... Almost like when you stick your head underwater... As soon as it was clear of us, that's when sound returned..."

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

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2mo ago

Former nuclear security officer remembers how everything got quieter as a UFO flew above: "As it approached and came over us, it actually deadened sound wherever it moved... Almost like when you stick your head underwater... As soon as it was clear of us, that's when sound returned..."

596 upvotes · 66 comments

Police Detective Testifies On UFO Events Witnessed By Police Officers. Cases of UFOs the size of football fields flying silently and dematerializing.

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20d ago

Police Detective Testifies On UFO Events Witnessed By Police Officers. Cases of UFOs the size of football fields flying silently and dematerializing.

r/UFOs - Police Detective Testifies On UFO Events Witnessed By Police Officers. Cases of UFOs the size of football fields flying silently and dematerializing.

482 upvotes · 48 comments

Academic Hit Job: How Researchers Twisted Facts to Discredit UFO Research -

"What appears at first glance to be a scholarly analysis quickly reveals itself as an exercise in academic gatekeeping, where legitimate questions about unexplained aerial phenomena are casually dismissed as mere conspiracy"

r/UFOs icon

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9mo ago

Academic Hit Job: How Researchers Twisted Facts to Discredit UFO Research -

"What appears at first glance to be a scholarly analysis quickly reveals itself as an exercise in academic gatekeeping, where legitimate questions about unexplained aerial phenomena are casually dismissed as mere conspiracy"

r/UFOs - Academic Hit Job: How Researchers Twisted Facts to Discredit UFO Research - "What appears at first glance to be a scholarly analysis quickly reveals itself as an exercise in academic gatekeeping, where legitimate questions about unexplained aerial phenomena are casually dismissed as mere conspiracy"

132 upvotes · 33 comments

This whole UFO disclosure is one giant psyop and everyone is falling for it.

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r/UFOs

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1mo ago

This whole UFO disclosure is one giant psyop and everyone is falling for it.

51 comments

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r/UFOs

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"UFO shapes changed over time" seems to be a myth : r/HighStrangeness

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Go to HighStrangeness

r/HighStrangeness

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3y ago

MKULTRA_Escap

"UFO shapes changed over time" seems to be a myth

You'll often see people claim things, often in the form of a question, such as "why did UFO shapes change since the 60s," or "why do UFOs follow our technological progression," but I don't think the main premise in these questions is true.

(To be clear, I'm not claiming that this "changing UFO" phenomenon isn't true in any fashion. Presumably, some percentage of UFO photos and descriptions would be hoaxes, and hoaxers are likely to get their ideas from movies and the like, so you probably should see at least some change here and there, but overall, provided that the obvious hoaxes can be ignored, this narrative isn't accurate.)

There isn't any difference at all if we're talking general shapes (disc, triangle, cigar/tic tac, sphere, balls of light, etc). What people will often claim is that "triangles replaced the discs" or some variation like that. However, this doesn't seem to be true. At best, the percentage of total reports of triangles and discs changed, not the presence of the discs or triangles themselves. This holds true for pretty much every major kind of UFO.

According to Nasa's Richard Stothers (NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies), "the UFO phenomenon, whatever it may be due to, has not changed much over two millennia" (click PDF). <https://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/abs/st02710y.html> He cites some choice examples, but you can find a lot more out there.

For example, the standard, and now more common triangle with a light on each tip, often with an orange/red one in the center, was first spotted in 1960.

Links on that:

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/onj9m3/a_brief_history_of_triangular_uaps/h5s3wfw/ An additional triangle without any lights from 1950 also provided, but you can find plenty of others.

This same triangular object described above caused the 1989 Belgian UFO wave, and was also allegedly photographed by a military pilot a few years ago (minus the red central light). In fact, both the 1960 triangle and the 1989 triangle even shares the same curious characteristic of the triangle strangely "pointing up" on occasion for some reason. The Belgian Wave.

And discs are still seen recently. For examples, you can find a bunch on NUFORC extending up to this year and last year. For imagery, a disc was videoed in 2007: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obVsLOiqeC4> and another one photographed in 2007: <https://web.archive.org/web/20130408231506/http://www.ufoevidence.org/photographs/section/recent/Photo416.htm> Another one was videoed in 2021: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhCiRwyJLI8>

[NOTE: with imagery, especially for the examples provided above, it must be mentioned that the majority of debunks are false. Not only are most of them mutually exclusive if there is more than one for a case, they are almost always based on a coincidence argument. Here is a detailed explanation for how and why these kinds of coincidence arguments appear to be convincing, but often don't hold any water. For examples, here are 8 debunks for the Calvin photo. Here are 13 debunks for the Turkey UFO incident. Notice almost every single one of these is both based on a coincidence and they are mutually exclusive. This obviously demonstrates that coincidences are extremely easy to find in a UFO case, and they typically have nothing whatsoever to do with the authenticity of the imagery.]

Even UFO crashes allegedly from extraterrestrials complete with strange writing resembling hieroglyphics extends back over 80 years at least before Roswell. Here is a UFO crash from 1864 hypothesized at the time to originate from extraterrestrials (labeled 1865 possibly erroneously):

<https://www.loc.gov/resource/sn84027008/1865-11-05/ed-1/?>

sp=3&st=text&clip=31%2C24%2C1009%2C5069&ciw=1009&rot=0 (here is an archived link if that doesn't work, and it was discussed here on Patrick Gross's website)

What about aliens that exit a spacecraft and walk around? 1896: "THREE STRANGE VISITORS Who Possibly Came From the Planet Mars Seen on a Country Road by Colonel H.G. Shaw and a Companion"

<https://ufologie.patrickgross.org/airship/25nov1896-lodi-california.htm>

Is the tic tac a new UFO? No. This thread has some examples of cigar/tic tac/egg shaped UFOs dating from 1873 to modern times:

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/nh4l36/reminder_the_only_thing_new_about_the_tictac/

Balls of light that zip around in the sky recorded by Massachusetts Bay Colony Governor in the 1600s.

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/10c0z1g/ufo_sightings_recorded_by_massachusetts_bay/

1561 Celestial Phenomenon over Nuremberg, spheres, cigars, and an "arrowhead-shaped" black flying object:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1561_celestial_phenomenon_over_Nuremberg

Here's a very interesting luminous UFO that had a "door" that opened up from the 11th century China, then it took off "at a tremendous speed," recorded by polymathic scientist Shen Kuo, who gathered reports of it:
https://np.reddit.com/r/aliens/comments/cjd2pk/11th_century_ufo_sighting_reported_by_chinese/

Another similar myth out there argues that such objects are not actually disc-shaped because the disc was an erroneous description promulgated by the media after misinterpreting what Kenneth Arnold described.

Arnold claimed he saw 9 objects, 8 essentially discs and one possibly crescent shaped, but it could have been due to the angle it was viewed at. When he described the disks, he used the description "convex triangle at the rear," but I believe a lot of people mistook that to mean "concave," as if crescent shaped. You can find mainstream media articles and the like that contributed to this myth that Arnold claimed he saw crescent objects, plural, but it's nonsense.

However, earlier stories did in fact credit Arnold with using terms such as "saucer", "disk", and "pie-pan" in describing the shape. (see quotations further below)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenneth_Arnold_UFO_sighting#Publicity_and_origins_of_term_%22flying_saucer%22

See here for more information: <https://kevinrandle.blogspot.com/2015/07/flying-saucers-and-kenneth-arnold.html>

At best, what happened is Arnold got spooked by the "saucer hysteria" that developed over the years and decided he needed to distance himself from it because it was embarrassing, so he decided to focus on one object that he later claimed may have been crescent-shaped. As everyone knows, when a guy catches a fish, the first time he tells the story, it's a decent sized fish, but as the years go on, that fish just keeps getting bigger and bigger after he keeps recalling it. After a period of time, Arnold eventually posed in front of a drawing someone made of a crescent-shaped object, which was the drawing that was boosted in the media.

So what did he actually see? Because he needed a way of understanding why it was in the air, his brain may have added a tiny bit of "wing" and something of a minute "tail" to it to comprehend it (my personal speculation).

As he says, he saw no tail (a vertical tail I believe he was referring to here), but at the time he thought there could be a tail there that blended in with the mountains because it theoretically could have been painted the same color as the mountains, so it's already established that he was making assumptions about the object that he wasn't himself witnessing to understand why it was flying.

Referring back to his original drawing to the Army, you'll notice it's like 95 percent of a flying disc. So the three available options are: 1) those objects looked exactly as he described and many other subsequent reports were drawn and described about 5 percent inaccurately. 2) Arnold did see virtually perfect disks, but since the idea was not in his head, his brain changed the appearance of the objects by 5 percent in his memory to understand them as described above. Or 3) something in between and both are wrong by maybe 2.5 percent. Either way, the prevailing narratives supporting the "crescent" myth are so far removed from what happened, I'm surprised they've kept it going this long when his original drawing is available in numerous places online. Everyone should agree that the closer in time a report and drawing is made to an event, the more accurate it likely is.

Aside from that, you can find flying disc reports going much further back before Kenneth Arnold, so the entire point is moot anyhow. Even if you somehow disagree and still believe that Arnold saw 9 crescent-shaped objects that he himself didn't even claim, it would simply be a coincidence that the media got it right

after misinterpreting his description.

Thanks for reading.

Edit: removed a bad link.

152

.

39

Comments Section

AutoModerator

MOD

•

2y ago

u/ryanscott6 avatar

ryanscott6

•

3y ago

Am in the middle of reading Dimensions by Jacques Vallee and it's very relevant to the topic. He talks about written account of flying "earthenware potty" way back in the 1100s in Japan.

36

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

That book was awesome. The similarities throughout history goes far beyond simple objects in the sky. You might like Charles Fort's books as well. I think it was in Fort's Lo! where I read about a few "jetpack man" sightings from the late 1800s, early 1900s. Look around and you can find a bunch of old flying humanoid cases, witches, etc. Half the time you can't tell if it's just another tale or what.

Another type I've been trying to look into is the MIB phenomenon. I'll share one.

Charles Fort, in Lo! (1931):

The most circumstantial of the stories appears in the Journal S. P. R., November, 1893. Miss M. Scott writes that, upon the afternoon of the 7th of May, 1893, between five and six o'clock, she was walking upon a road, near St. Boswells (Roxburghshire) when she saw ahead of her a tall man, who, dressed in black, looked like a clergyman. There is no assertion that this "figure" looked ghostly, and there is a little circumstance that indicates that the "figure," or the living being, was looked at more than casually. Having considerable distance to go, Miss Scott started to run: but it occurred to her that it would not be dignified to run past this stranger: so she stood still, to let the distance increase. She saw the clerical-looking man turn a corner of the road, the upper part of his body visible above a low hedge—"he was gone in an instant." Not far beyond this vanishing point, Miss Scott met her sister, who was standing in the road, looking about her in bewilderment, exclaiming that she had seen a man disappear, while she was looking at him.

Another book has this as occurring in 1892. I'm not sure which is correct because I couldn't find the original source that was cited. You can read the passage here: <https://imgur.com/a/geFzhAm> An excerpt:

Miss Scott encountered the strange clergyman again on Sunday June 12th, and this time decided to pursue the man in order to get a closer look at him, only to find that "though he was apparently walking slowly, I never could get any closer

than within a few yards for in a moment he seemed to float or skim away."

This description is very reminiscent of modern MIB encounters from the appearance and outdated/strange outfit, and the description of the movement is similar to some alien sightings. They are often described as floating slightly to move around, or moving quickly, but in "slow motion," etc.

Here is the book (Scroll up a few pages to find it)

16

1 more reply

u/irrelevantappelation avatar
irrelevantappelation

•

3y ago

Excellent

10

u/Theagenes1 avatar
Theagenes1

•

3y ago

This is an excellent analysis, especially the breakdown of Arnold's account and his story as it slightly changes over the years. Some of this may be due to the fact that Ray Palmer, the editor of Fate magazine, was the one primarily publishing Arnold's written accounts from 1948 to 1952. The Shaver Mystery shows that Palmer was not shy with his editorial hand.

On the shape of the objects that he saw, I tend to think at least the eight similar objects were the truncated disc or shoe heel shape that he described, primarily because of the Rhodes photos from Arizona a couple of weeks later:

<https://imgur.com/a/ZlCWBVL>

You could suggest that Rhodes was hoaxing based Arnold's description, except that the description most people were hearing about in the papers was saucer or pie pan. I don't believe his drawing that he made for the investigators that you show here had been made public yet.

The famous cover of the first issue of Fate magazine in 1948, which published the first full length article by Arnold, is based on his description:

<https://imgur.com/a/4x5nKpe>

Also, just an observation, looking at the Rhodes photos, I think it's possible that if it were turned at the right angle I could see how it might be mistaken for the crescent or batwing shaped object that he saw as well. In other words they may have all had the same shape but one of them was turned at a different angle. Alternatively, it could be as he said and one of them really was a different shape. That's not uncommon with sightings over the ages as well.

4

Vincefinney1909

•

3y ago

My favorite r/ufo poster will always be mk ultraescape thanks for all your contributions

4

1 more reply

[deleted]

•

3y ago

One explanation I've heard without evidence but is interesting nonetheless, is the claim that each UAP/UFO is 3-D printed to spec before flight and disassembled afterwards. All by this supposed giant under water factory of the Atlantic. Supposedly, one reason for changes is that ships with different shapes serve different purposes and that being shot down enough times by us over the last 70 years has necessitated the use of more pilotless drones. I have no idea if there's any validity to the claims, but it's the first time I've ever heard an explanation that ties together all these different sightings.

1

u/FamiliarSomeone avatar
FamiliarSomeone

•

3y ago

This is useful, thank you. Is it possible that it is a language issue? Geometrical shapes, colours and lights are a common feature throughout history, but the analogy of what the phenomena is compared to changes as technology advances. What interests me more is the appearance of beings who accompany such phenomena who do seem to have adapted their appearance at times to the historical and cultural period. I do not know if this is framing by the people who experience them or if they actually transform to suit expectations. There does seem to be evidence of an interplay of expectation and reality in my view, but I will consider your evidence and the links you posted.

5

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

Yes, this is an excellent point. I do agree, as I stated, that you can find some kinds of "change over time" throughout the reports, but this doesn't apply to the shapes of the objects, at least if we're talking about the 6 or so main shapes.

The language issue is a perfect explanation for that if we assume that such examples are actually true. For example, in the 1800s, perhaps somebody describes an object as having propellers, but in reality, perhaps it was just some circular thing on the object that appeared to be propellers. In those days, propellers were a propulsion concept in both air and water that people were aware of, so to them, propellers on the object would make sense. They may not have actually seen propellers, but they interpreted what they saw as such.

To make things a little more complicated, there is the additional possibility of humans themselves creating airships that the population didn't know about, or that were lost to history. Human-created objects will obviously "change over time" as our technology changes. Those two issues, along with the fact that in some of the reports, it's difficult to decide whether it was made up or not, makes reading these reports tedious, but nobody told me it was going to be simple.

4

u/hipeakservices avatar
hipeakservices

•

3y ago

exactly. look at Leonardo da Vinci's drawings, for example.

2

3 more replies

u/AutoModerator avatar
AutoModerator
MOD

•

3y ago

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This subreddit is specifically for the discussion of anomalous phenomena from the perspective it may exist. Open minded skepticism is welcomed, close minded debunking is not. Be aware of how skepticism is expressed toward others as there is little tolerance for ad hominem (attacking the person, not the claim), mindless antagonism or dishonest argument toward the subject, the sub, or its community.

'Ridicule is not a part of the scientific method and the public should not be taught that it is.'

-J. Allen Hynek

I am a bot, and this action was performed automatically. Please contact the moderators of this subreddit if you have any questions or concerns.

2

u/sirlanceolate avatar
sirlanceolate

•

3y ago

This same triangular object described above caused the 1989 Belgian UFO wave

this is not honest and accurate reporting

2

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

Where is the difference? The position of the lights are the same, the color of the inside light is the same, the color of the outside lights almost the same (blue and white aren't much different light descriptions), the behavior is the same (take off at high speed, hover, occasionally nose pointing up, silent), and both had military witnesses (people who are familiar with regular aircraft), so I don't see why you wouldn't assume one is probably the same as the other. There are far too many things consistent between them.

3

3 more replies

[deleted]

•

3y ago

This just came up definitely an attempt at misinformation. Inconsistency means either sightings are fabricated or changing covert government technology. In fact over centuries the same various shapes are described: disc, bell, cigar/tictac, etc.

3

Constant-Signal-2058

•

3y ago

The pics sure do look different over time. I think that's mostly what the

average person, like myself, is looking at. Idk one way or the other. Again though, the pics from the 70s just look different. I understand the claim.

2

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

I'll have to respectfully disagree. The biggest issue is trying to figure out what was a hoax or not, but even if we ignore that, there are plenty of different UFOs that are represented in multiple decades.

From the information in my post: 1) The specific triangle with three lights, one on each tip has been around for at least 61 years. 2) Spheres have been around for many hundreds of years. 3) Balls of light that zip around have been around for many hundreds of years. Cigar-shaped UFOs have been around for at least 150 years.

Here are like 500 photos: UFOevidence archive. Keep clicking 'next' to scroll through the archive, or mess around with the menu on the side to sort them. UFO casebook (2011 is broken, so use this link for that year), Patrick Gross archive, BlackVault daytime archive, BlackVault night time archive, Wendlle Stevens archive.

Examples of the disc with a flat bottom and a "ping pong ball on top" specifically (24 year span):

1954 - Sicily, Italy, December 10.

<https://www.ufocasebook.com/sicilyitaly1954large.jpg>

1964- witnessed in California, described by Professor Robert Jacobs and Major F.J. Mansmann: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4wL4lbwwNU&t=22s>

1971 - Costa Rica, September 4 - photo taken by an official mapping aircraft of the Costa Rican government <https://www.unilad.com/news/new-version-of-best-picture-of-a-ufo-ever-has-been-released-20220507>

Striking similarity between drawing of UFO from Westall 1966 and John Lennon's sketch from his 1974 sighting:

https://np.reddit.com/r/aliens/comments/b06lxp/striking_similarity_between_john_lennons_nyc_ufo/

1978 - Colfax, Wisconsin. On April 19, 1978 <https://www.openminds.tv/ufo-photographs-from-colfax-wisconsin/11015>

The thick disc with large dome (86 year span):

1932- Paris, Ohio: <https://www.ufocasebook.com/ohio32large.jpg>

1965 - Warminster, England <https://www.ufocasebook.com/scotland1965.jpg>

1967 - Woonsocket, Rhode Island

<https://www.ufocasebook.com/woonsocket1967large.jpg>

Turkey 1998: <https://www.ufocasebook.com/turkey1998.jpg>

2018 - Narragansett, Rhode Island <https://www.ufocasebook.com/2018/rhode-island.jpeg>

Standard disc, medium sized dome (57 year span):

1952 - Passaic, New Jersey <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R85S2xBWohs>

1993, Meridian, Ohio: <https://preview.redd.it/of1xsdcisz31.jpg?width=604&format=pjpg&auto=webp&v=enabled&s=89cddfd5e0b723aadbde21b7ed255e63edbc586e>

2009 Prijedor - Bosnia <https://vimeo.com/4951898>

Look through all of those archives I provided for anyone who wants to find more. I'll bet if you drew each one and asked somebody to assign a decade to each one, they'd have a tough time doing it.

7
magicfingers73

•
3y ago
I read an article years ago suggesting they may be "designed" with current understanding/trends in mind. For example, there are some OLD reports that kind of look almost victorian in appearance. Food for thought

1
Less-Cap6996

•
3y ago
Look at cars, phones, anything tech from the 1940's through today. Things change.

1
u/Revolutionary-Box404 avatar
Revolutionary-Box404

•
3y ago
If helps at all, I've seen the bottom part of a classical looking flying disk last April.

3
u/CurrentlyHuman avatar
CurrentlyHuman

•
3y ago
Bright Moon Pearl. If it's not fiction it's mind-blowing.

1
[deleted]

•
3y ago
Same for aliens.

1
TheFirsttimmyboy

•
3y ago
Tl;dr

1
u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee
OP

•
3y ago
I'll give it a shot.

Whenever someone says "UFO shapes have changed over time," referring to discs, triangles, cigars, etc, they are just spreading another myth because you can

find all of the main shapes both recently and throughout history. The only debatable variation of the argument is that details on the UFOs may or may not have changed over time. It's subjective and possibly influenced by technical knowledge the witnesses had in the time period. Human-made aircraft erroneously labeled as UFOs and hoaxes specifically should change over time, but not UFOs in general. Also Kenneth Arnold really did see flying discs as his original drawing to the Army clearly shows, not 9 crescents.

4
iSWINE

•

3y ago

I've always took that the "changing" of UFO descriptions came from our further understanding of technology at the current peak, not from the UFOs matching our current technological understanding to "stay hidden etc"

1
ZakTSK

•

3y ago

Obviously the aliens are capitalists and get new ships over time.

1

1 more reply

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Reported UFO shapes - Some of the most commonly reported UFO shapes over the past eight decades

r/interestingasfuck icon

r/interestingasfuck

•

4y ago

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•

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•

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Alien species and UFO shape

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Here is a Highstrangeness iceberg chart for people who are getting tired of UFO posts.

r/HighStrangeness icon

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•

1mo ago

Here is a Highstrangeness iceberg chart for people who are getting tired of UFO posts.

r/HighStrangeness - Here is a Highstrangeness iceberg chart for people who are getting tired of UFO posts.

445 upvotes · 69 comments

This game needs flying saucer type ships. These basic shapes lend themselves easily to procedural generation, and I want to own a UFO.

r/NoMansSkyTheGame icon

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•

5y ago

This game needs flying saucer type ships. These basic shapes lend themselves easily to procedural generation, and I want to own a UFO.

r/NoMansSkyTheGame - This game needs flying saucer type ships. These basic shapes lend themselves easily to procedural generation, and I want to own a UFO.

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r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

5mo ago

The UFO Phenomenon Is Weirder Than You Think

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r/HighStrangeness

•

9d ago

Just finished this UFO painting!

r/HighStrangeness - Just finished this UFO painting!

2K upvotes · 80 comments

[WP] After finally establishing diplomatic relations with alien life, many were eager to finally answer the long unanswered questions on UFOs. Their response?

"We've seen those too, we also don't know what they are."

r/WritingPrompts icon

r/WritingPrompts

•

15d ago

[WP] After finally establishing diplomatic relations with alien life, many were eager to finally answer the long unanswered questions on UFOs. Their response?

"We've seen those too, we also don't know what they are."

377 upvotes · 12 comments

It was the year of the UFO in 2025. From new-age documentaries to decades-old mysterious reports coming to light, both experts and civilians have been baffled by a slew of new information regarding otherworldly objects appearing over the country's skies.

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•

4d ago

It was the year of the UFO in 2025. From new-age documentaries to decades-old mysterious reports coming to light, both experts and civilians have been baffled by a slew of new information regarding otherworldly objects appearing over the country's skies.

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108 upvotes · 8 comments

Most common UFO Shapes Reported in each state

r/Maps

•

1y ago

Most common UFO Shapes Reported in each state

r/Maps - Most common UFO Shapes Reported in each state

6 upvotes · 1 comment

A serious theory about UFOs and why they might actually come from Earth

r/AliensRHere icon

r/AliensRHere

•

19d ago

A serious theory about UFOs and why they might actually come from Earth

94 upvotes · 62 comments

NASA has many High-resolution Photos of UFOs or Alien Spacecraft! See the testimony of a former NASA employee!

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

10mo ago

NASA has many High-resolution Photos of UFOs or Alien Spacecraft! See the testimony of a former NASA employee!

r/HighStrangeness - NASA has many High-resolution Photos of UFOs or Alien Spacecraft! See the testimony of a former NASA employee!

357 upvotes · 122 comments

Disappearing Elk: The UFO Connection

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

12d ago

Disappearing Elk: The UFO Connection

290 upvotes · 142 comments

UFO Whistleblower recounts his personal encounter with a large triangular UFO.

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

4mo ago

UFO Whistleblower recounts his personal encounter with a large triangular UFO.

742 upvotes · 51 comments

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•

4mo ago

Falcon Lake UFO incident UPDATE!

r/HighStrangeness - Falcon Lake UFO incident UPDATE!

16

659 upvotes · 125 comments

Are UFOs real?

r/teenpoll icon

r/teenpoll

•

8d ago

Are UFOs real?

170 upvotes · 39 comments

Experiencers report having recurrent dreams sometimes called the "night of lights" in which the nighttime sky is full of UFOs. What if many individuals suddenly started to recall past encounters with UFO intelligences?

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

5mo ago

Experiencers report having recurrent dreams sometimes called the "night of lights" in which the nighttime sky is full of UFOs. What if many individuals suddenly started to recall past encounters with UFO intelligences?

r/HighStrangeness - Experiencers report having recurrent dreams sometimes called the "night of lights" in which the nighttime sky is full of UFOs. What if many

individuals suddenly started to recall past encounters with UFO intelligences?
67 upvotes · 35 comments
Anyone Occasionally Dream About UFOs?
r/aliens icon
r/aliens

•

4mo ago
Anyone Occasionally Dream About UFOs?
45 upvotes · 34 comments
Australia 1966 UFO Incident!
r/HighStrangeness icon
r/HighStrangeness

•

2mo ago
Australia 1966 UFO Incident!
r/HighStrangeness - Australia 1966 UFO Incident!
299 upvotes · 29 comments
UFO merges with another UFO
r/HighStrangeness icon
r/HighStrangeness

•

3mo ago
UFO merges with another UFO
r/HighStrangeness - UFO merges with another UFO
youtube
80 upvotes · 19 comments
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r/HighStrangeness

•

5mo ago
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22 upvotes · 7 comments
Ufo Sighting Lights In The Sky!
r/HighStrangeness icon
r/HighStrangeness

•

18d ago
Ufo Sighting Lights In The Sky!
r/HighStrangeness - Ufo Sighting Lights In The Sky!
84 upvotes · 15 comments
What are some entry level methods a regular guy like me could try communicating with aliens?
r/HighStrangeness icon
r/HighStrangeness

•

4d ago
What are some entry level methods a regular guy like me could try communicating with aliens?
47 upvotes · 130 comments

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"UFO shapes changed over time" seems to be a myth : r/HighStrangeness

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Go to HighStrangeness

r/HighStrangeness

•

3y ago

MKULTRA_Escap

"UFO shapes changed over time" seems to be a myth

You'll often see people claim things, often in the form of a question, such as "why did UFO shapes change since the 60s," or "why do UFOs follow our technological progression," but I don't think the main premise in these questions is true.

(To be clear, I'm not claiming that this "changing UFO" phenomenon isn't true in any fashion. Presumably, some percentage of UFO photos and descriptions would be hoaxes, and hoaxers are likely to get their ideas from movies and the like, so you probably should see at least some change here and there, but overall, provided that the obvious hoaxes can be ignored, this narrative isn't accurate.)

There isn't any difference at all if we're talking general shapes (disc, triangle, cigar/tic tac, sphere, balls of light, etc). What people will often claim is that "triangles replaced the discs" or some variation like that. However, this doesn't seem to be true. At best, the percentage of total reports of triangles and discs changed, not the presence of the discs or triangles themselves. This holds true for pretty much every major kind of UFO.

According to Nasa's Richard Stothers (NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies), "the UFO phenomenon, whatever it may be due to, has not changed much over two millennia" (click PDF). <https://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/abs/st02710y.html> He cites some choice examples, but you can find a lot more out there.

For example, the standard, and now more common triangle with a light on each tip, often with an orange/red one in the center, was first spotted in 1960.

Links on that:

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/onj9m3/a_brief_history_of_triangular_uaps/h5s3wfw/ An additional triangle without any lights from 1950 also provided, but you can find plenty of others.

This same triangular object described above caused the 1989 Belgian UFO wave, and was also allegedly photographed by a military pilot a few years ago (minus the red central light). In fact, both the 1960 triangle and the 1989 triangle even shares the same curious characteristic of the triangle strangely "pointing up" on occasion for some reason. The Belgian Wave.

And discs are still seen recently. For examples, you can find a bunch on NUFORC extending up to this year and last year. For imagery, a disc was videoed in 2007: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obVsL0iqeC4> and another one photographed in 2007: <https://web.archive.org/web/20130408231506/http://www.ufoevidence.org/photographs/section/recent/Photo416.htm> Another one was videoed in 2021: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhCiRwyJLI8>

[NOTE: with imagery, especially for the examples provided above, it must be mentioned that the majority of debunks are false. Not only are most of them

mutually exclusive if there is more than one for a case, they are almost always based on a coincidence argument. Here is a detailed explanation for how and why these kinds of coincidence arguments appear to be convincing, but often don't hold any water. For examples, here are 8 debunks for the Calvin photo. Here are 13 debunks for the Turkey UFO incident. Notice almost every single one of these is both based on a coincidence and they are mutually exclusive. This obviously demonstrates that coincidences are extremely easy to find in a UFO case, and they typically have nothing whatsoever to do with the authenticity of the imagery.]

Even UFO crashes allegedly from extraterrestrials complete with strange writing resembling hieroglyphics extends back over 80 years at least before Roswell. Here is a UFO crash from 1864 hypothesized at the time to originate from extraterrestrials (labeled 1865 possibly erroneously):
<https://www.loc.gov/resource/sn84027008/1865-11-05/ed-1/?sp=3&st=text&clip=31%2C24%2C1009%2C5069&ciw=1009&rot=0> (here is an archived link if that doesn't work, and it was discussed here on Patrick Gross's website)

What about aliens that exit a spacecraft and walk around? 1896: "THREE STRANGE VISITORS Who Possibly Came From the Planet Mars Seen on a Country Road by Colonel H.G. Shaw and a Companion"
<https://ufologie.patrickgross.org/airship/25nov1896-lodi-california.htm>

Is the tic tac a new UFO? No. This thread has some examples of cigar/tic tac/egg shaped UFOs dating from 1873 to modern times:
https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/nh4l36/reminder_the_only_thing_new_about_the_tictac/

Balls of light that zip around in the sky recorded by Massachusetts Bay Colony Governor in the 1600s.
https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/10c0z1g/ufo_sightings_recorded_by_massachusetts_bay/

1561 Celestial Phenomenon over Nuremberg, spheres, cigars, and an "arrowhead-shaped" black flying object:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1561_celestial_phenomenon_over_Nuremberg

Here's a very interesting luminous UFO that had a "door" that opened up from the 11th century China, then it took off "at a tremendous speed," recorded by polymathic scientist Shen Kuo, who gathered reports of it:
https://np.reddit.com/r/aliens/comments/cjd2pk/11th_century_ufo_sighting_reported_by_chinese/

Another similar myth out there argues that such objects are not actually disc-shaped because the disc was an erroneous description promulgated by the media after misinterpreting what Kenneth Arnold described.

Arnold claimed he saw 9 objects, 8 essentially discs and one possibly crescent shaped, but it could have been due to the angle it was viewed at. When he described the disks, he used the description "convex triangle at the rear," but I believe a lot of people mistook that to mean "concave," as if crescent shaped. You can find mainstream media articles and the like that contributed to this myth that Arnold claimed he saw crescent objects, plural, but it's nonsense.

However, earlier stories did in fact credit Arnold with using terms such as "saucer", "disk", and "pie-pan" in describing the shape. (see quotations further below)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenneth_Arnold_UFO_sighting#Publicity_and_origins_of_term_%22flying_saucer%22

See here for more information: <https://kevinrandle.blogspot.com/2015/07/flying-saucers-and-kenneth-arnold.html>

At best, what happened is Arnold got spooked by the "saucer hysteria" that

developed over the years and decided he needed to distance himself from it because it was embarrassing, so he decided to focus on one object that he later claimed may have been crescent-shaped. As everyone knows, when a guy catches a fish, the first time he tells the story, it's a decent sized fish, but as the years go on, that fish just keeps getting bigger and bigger after he keeps recalling it. After a period of time, Arnold eventually posed in front of a drawing someone made of a crescent-shaped object, which was the drawing that was boosted in the media.

So what did he actually see? Because he needed a way of understanding why it was in the air, his brain may have added a tiny bit of "wing" and something of a minute "tail" to it to comprehend it (my personal speculation).

As he says, he saw no tail (a vertical tail I believe he was referring to here), but at the time he thought there could be a tail there that blended in with the mountains because it theoretically could have been painted the same color as the mountains, so it's already established that he was making assumptions about the object that he wasn't himself witnessing to understand why it was flying.

Referring back to his original drawing to the Army, you'll notice it's like 95 percent of a flying disc. So the three available options are: 1) those objects looked exactly as he described and many other subsequent reports were drawn and described about 5 percent inaccurately. 2) Arnold did see virtually perfect disks, but since the idea was not in his head, his brain changed the appearance of the objects by 5 percent in his memory to understand them as described above. Or 3) something in between and both are wrong by maybe 2.5 percent. Either way, the prevailing narratives supporting the "crescent" myth are so far removed from what happened, I'm surprised they've kept it going this long when his original drawing is available in numerous places online. Everyone should agree that the closer in time a report and drawing is made to an event, the more accurate it likely is.

Aside from that, you can find flying disc reports going much further back before Kenneth Arnold, so the entire point is moot anyhow. Even if you somehow disagree and still believe that Arnold saw 9 crescent-shaped objects that he himself didn't even claim, it would simply be a coincidence that the media got it right after misinterpreting his description.

Thanks for reading.

Edit: removed a bad link.

152

.

39

Comments Section

AutoModerator

MOD

•

2y ago

u/ryanscott6 avatar

ryanscott6

•

3y ago

Am in the middle of reading Dimensions by Jacques Vallee and it's very relevant to the topic. He talks about written account of flying "earthenware potty" way back in the 1100s in Japan.

36

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

That book was awesome. The similarities throughout history goes far beyond simple objects in the sky. You might like Charles Fort's books as well. I think it was in Fort's Lo! where I read about a few "jetpack man" sightings from the late 1800s, early 1900s. Look around and you can find a bunch of old flying humanoid cases, witches, etc. Half the time you can't tell if it's just another tale or what.

Another type I've been trying to look into is the MIB phenomenon. I'll share one.

Charles Fort, in Lo! (1931):

The most circumstantial of the stories appears in the Journal S. P. R., November, 1893. Miss M. Scott writes that, upon the afternoon of the 7th of May, 1893, between five and six o'clock, she was walking upon a road, near St. Boswells (Roxburghshire) when she saw ahead of her a tall man, who, dressed in black, looked like a clergyman. There is no assertion that this "figure" looked ghostly, and there is a little circumstance that indicates that the "figure," or the living being, was looked at more than casually. Having considerable distance to go, Miss Scott started to run: but it occurred to her that it would not be dignified to run past this stranger: so she stood still, to let the distance increase. She saw the clerical-looking man turn a corner of the road, the upper part of his body visible above a low hedge—"he was gone in an instant." Not far beyond this vanishing point, Miss Scott met her sister, who was standing in the road, looking about her in bewilderment, exclaiming that she had seen a man disappear, while she was looking at him.

Another book has this as occurring in 1892. I'm not sure which is correct because I couldn't find the original source that was cited. You can read the passage here: <https://imgur.com/a/geFzhAm> An excerpt:

Miss Scott encountered the strange clergyman again on Sunday June 12th, and this time decided to pursue the man in order to get a closer look at him, only to find that "though he was apparently walking slowly, I never could get any closer than within a few yards for in a moment he seemed to float or skim away."

This description is very reminiscent of modern MIB encounters from the appearance and outdated/strange outfit, and the description of the movement is similar to some alien sightings. They are often described as floating slightly to move around, or moving quickly, but in "slow motion," etc.

Here is the book (Scroll up a few pages to find it)

16

u/uzi_loogies_ avatar

uzi_loogies_

•

2y ago

Half the time you can't tell if it's just another tale or what.

Humans repeat what they see.

1

u/irrelevantappelation avatar

irrelevantappelation

•

3y ago

Excellent

10

u/Theagenes1 avatar

Theagenes1

•

3y ago

This is an excellent analysis, especially the breakdown of Arnold's account and his story as it slightly changes over the years. Some of this may be due to the fact that Ray Palmer, the editor of Fate magazine, was the one primarily publishing Arnold's written accounts from 1948 to 1952. The Shaver Mystery shows that Palmer was not shy with his editorial hand.

On the shape of the objects that he saw, I tend to think at least the eight similar objects were the truncated disc or shoe heel shape that he described, primarily because of the Rhodes photos from Arizona a couple of weeks later:

<https://imgur.com/a/ZlCWbVL>

You could suggest that Rhodes was hoaxing based Arnold's description, except that the description most people were hearing about in the papers was saucer or pie pan. I don't believe his drawing that he made for the investigators that you show here had been made public yet.

The famous cover of the first issue of Fate magazine in 1948, which published the first full length article by Arnold, is based on his description:

<https://imgur.com/a/4x5nKpe>

Also, just an observation, looking at the Rhodes photos, I think it's possible that if it were turned at the right angle I could see how it might be mistaken for the crescent or batwing shaped object that he saw as well. In other words they may have all had the same shape but one of them was turned at a different angle. Alternatively, it could be as he said and one of them really was a different shape. That's not uncommon with sightings over the ages as well.

4

Vincefinney1909

•

3y ago

My favorite r/ufo poster will always be mk ultraescape thanks for all your contributions

4

1 more reply

[deleted]

•

3y ago

One explanation I've heard without evidence but is interesting nonetheless, is the claim that each UAP/UFO is 3-D printed to spec before flight and disassembled afterwards. All by this supposed giant under water factory of the Atlantic. Supposedly, one reason for changes is that ships with different shapes serve different purposes and that being shot down enough times by us over the last 70 years has necessitated the use of more pilotless drones. I have no idea if there's any validity to the claims, but it's the first time I've ever heard an explanation that ties together all these different sightings.

1

u/FamiliarSomeone avatar

FamiliarSomeone

•

3y ago

This is useful, thank you. Is it possible that it is a language issue? Geometrical shapes, colours and lights are a common feature throughout history, but the analogy of what the phenomena is compared to changes as technology advances. What interests me more is the appearance of beings who accompany such phenomena who do seem to have adapted their appearance at times to the

historical and cultural period. I do not know if this is framing by the people who experience them or if they actually transform to suit expectations. There does seem to be evidence of an interplay of expectation and reality in my view, but I will consider your evidence and the links you posted.

5
u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee
OP

•
3y ago
Yes, this is an excellent point. I do agree, as I stated, that you can find some kinds of "change over time" throughout the reports, but this doesn't apply to the shapes of the objects, at least if we're talking about the 6 or so main shapes.

The language issue is a perfect explanation for that if we assume that such examples are actually true. For example, in the 1800s, perhaps somebody describes an object as having propellers, but in reality, perhaps it was just some circular thing on the object that appeared to be propellers. In those days, propellers were a propulsion concept in both air and water that people were aware of, so to them, propellers on the object would make sense. They may not have actually seen propellers, but they interpreted what they saw as such.

To make things a little more complicated, there is the additional possibility of humans themselves creating airships that the population didn't know about, or that were lost to history. Human-created objects will obviously "change over time" as our technology changes. Those two issues, along with the fact that in some of the reports, it's difficult to decide whether it was made up or not, makes reading these reports tedious, but nobody told me it was going to be simple.

4
u/hipeakservices avatar
hipeakservices

•
3y ago
exactly. look at Leonardo da Vinci's drawings, for example.

2

3 more replies
u/AutoModerator avatar
AutoModerator
MOD

•
3y ago
Strangers: Read the rules and understand the sub topics listed in the sidebar closely before posting or commenting. Any content removal or further moderator action is established by these terms as well as Reddit ToS.

This subreddit is specifically for the discussion of anomalous phenomena from the perspective it may exist. Open minded skepticism is welcomed, close minded debunking is not. Be aware of how skepticism is expressed toward others as there is little tolerance for ad hominem (attacking the person, not the claim), mindless antagonism or dishonest argument toward the subject, the sub, or its community.

'Ridicule is not a part of the scientific method and the public should not be taught that it is.'

-J. Allen Hynek

I am a bot, and this action was performed automatically. Please contact the moderators of this subreddit if you have any questions or concerns.

2

u/sirlanceolate avatar
sirlanceolate

•

3y ago

This same triangular object described above caused the 1989 Belgian UFO wave

this is not honest and accurate reporting

2

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

Where is the difference? The position of the lights are the same, the color of the inside light is the same, the color of the outside lights almost the same (blue and white aren't much different light descriptions), the behavior is the same (take off at high speed, hover, occasionally nose pointing up, silent), and both had military witnesses (people who are familiar with regular aircraft), so I don't see why you wouldn't assume one is probably the same as the other. There are far too many things consistent between them.

3

3 more replies

[deleted]

•

3y ago

This just came up definitely an attempt at misinformation. Inconsistency means either sightings are fabricated or changing covert government technology. In fact over centuries the same various shapes are described: disc, bell, cigar/tictac, etc.

3

Constant-Signal-2058

•

3y ago

The pics sure do look different over time. I think that's mostly what the average person, like myself, is looking at. Idk one way or the other. Again though, the pics from the 70s just look different. I understand the claim.

2

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

I'll have to respectfully disagree. The biggest issue is trying to figure out what was a hoax or not, but even if we ignore that, there are plenty of different UFOs that are represented in multiple decades.

From the information in my post: 1) The specific triangle with three lights, one on each tip has been around for at least 61 years. 2) Spheres have been around for many hundreds of years. 3) Balls of light that zip around have been around for many hundreds of years. Cigar-shaped UFOs have been around for at least 150 years.

Here are like 500 photos: UFOevidence archive. Keep clicking 'next' to scroll through the archive, or mess around with the menu on the side to sort them. UFO casebook (2011 is broken, so use this link for that year), Patrick Gross archive, BlackVault daytime archive, BlackVault night time archive, Wendlle Stevens archive.

Examples of the disc with a flat bottom and a "ping pong ball on top" specifically (24 year span):

1954 - Sicily, Italy, December 10.
<https://www.ufocasebook.com/sicilyitaly1954large.jpg>

1964- witnessed in California, described by Professor Robert Jacobs and Major F.J. Mansmann: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4wL4lbwwNU&t=22s>

1971 - Costa Rica, September 4 - photo taken by an official mapping aircraft of the Costa Rican government <https://www.unilad.com/news/new-version-of-best-picture-of-a-ufo-ever-has-been-released-20220507>

Striking similarity between drawing of UFO from Westall 1966 and John Lennon's sketch from his 1974 sighting:
https://np.reddit.com/r/aliens/comments/b06lxp/striking_similarity_between_john_lennons_nyc_ufo/

1978 - Colfax, Wisconsin. On April 19, 1978 <https://www.openminds.tv/ufo-photographs-from-colfax-wisconsin/11015>

The thick disc with large dome (86 year span):

1932- Paris, Ohio: <https://www.ufocasebook.com/ohio32large.jpg>

1965 - Warminster, England <https://www.ufocasebook.com/scotland1965.jpg>

1967 - Woonsocket, Rhode Island
<https://www.ufocasebook.com/woonsocket1967large.jpg>

Turkey 1998: <https://www.ufocasebook.com/turkey1998.jpg>

2018 - Narragansett, Rhode Island <https://www.ufocasebook.com/2018/rhode-island.jpeg>

Standard disc, medium sized dome (57 year span):

1952 - Passaic, New Jersey <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R85S2xBWohs>

1993, Meridian, Ohio: <https://preview.redd.it/of1xsdcsziz31.jpg?width=604&format=pjpg&auto=webp&v=enabled&s=89cddfd5e0b723aadbde21b7ed255e63edbc586e>

2009 Prijedor - Bosnia <https://vimeo.com/4951898>

Look through all of those archives I provided for anyone who wants to find more. I'll bet if you drew each one and asked somebody to assign a decade to each one, they'd have a tough time doing it.

7
magicfingers73

•

3y ago

I read an article years ago suggesting they may be "designed" with current understanding/trends in mind. For example, there are some OLD reports that kind of look almost victorian in appearance. Food for thought

Less-Cap6996

•

3y ago

Look at cars, phones, anything tech from the 1940's through today. Things change.

1

u/Revolutionary-Box404 avatar

Revolutionary-Box404

•

3y ago

If helps at all, I've seen the bottom part of a classical looking flying disk last April.

3

u/CurrentlyHuman avatar

CurrentlyHuman

•

3y ago

Bright Moon Pearl. If it's not fiction it's mind-blowing.

1

[deleted]

•

3y ago

Same for aliens.

1

TheFirsttimmyboy

•

3y ago

Tl;dr

1

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

I'll give it a shot.

Whenever someone says "UFO shapes have changed over time," referring to discs, triangles, cigars, etc, they are just spreading another myth because you can find all of the main shapes both recently and throughout history. The only debatable variation of the argument is that details on the UFOs may or may not have changed over time. It's subjective and possibly influenced by technical knowledge the witnesses had in the time period. Human-made aircraft erroneously labeled as UFOs and hoaxes specifically should change over time, but not UFOs in general. Also Kenneth Arnold really did see flying discs as his original drawing to the Army clearly shows, not 9 crescents.

4

iSWINE

•

3y ago

I've always took that the "changing" of UFO descriptions came from our further understanding of technology at the current peak, not from the UFOs matching our current technological understanding to "stay hidden etc"

1

ZakTSK

•

3y ago

Obviously the aliens are capitalists and get new ships over time.

1

1 more reply

u/Powerful-Row-558 avatar

Powerful-Row-558

•

3y ago

Watch "Only Real UFOs" on YouTube. I've seen one on there that changes shape in real time

1

u/MKULTRA_Escapée avatar

MKULTRA_Escapée

OP

•

3y ago

I have a couple of shape changing UFO videos. They're pretty strange. I initially tried to interpret them as balloons, possibly rotating or something, but if you follow it closely, the explanation doesn't work.

OVNI enviando Señales Guadalajara Mex 04/07/2014: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCR8MfLumoc>

UFO Sighting over Yokosuka Japan, uploaded 2012: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_95QB0LeCpA

1

1 more reply

u/simon8383 avatar

simon8383

•

2y ago

https://public.tableau.com/views/UFOsightings-ShapeandSeasonalityAnalysis/UFOsightings?:language=en-US&:display_count=n&:origin=viz_share_link

Here is a Tableau visualization I have created which shows all the historical data of global UFO sightings, including the shapes, time of day, day of week, month of year etc. Cheers

1

u/MKULTRA_Escapée avatar

MKULTRA_Escapée

OP

•

2y ago

What are your data sources? I tried to find it on there, but I might be just missing it.

The last person to do this used NUFORC only, and made it seem like UFOs are concentrated in the United States, which I believe I overwhelmingly proved false here:

https://np.reddit.com/r/aliens/comments/13v9fkh/ufo_information_from_other_countries_and/

1

More posts you may like

Reported UFO shapes - Some of the most commonly reported UFO shapes over the past eight decades

r/interestingasfuck icon

r/interestingasfuck

•

4y ago

Reported UFO shapes - Some of the most commonly reported UFO shapes over the past eight decades

r/interestingasfuck - Reported UFO shapes - Some of the most commonly reported UFO shapes over the past eight decades

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r/HighStrangeness

•

5mo ago

The most compelling UFO evidence known to man

r/HighStrangeness - The most compelling UFO evidence known to man

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•

9mo ago

What could be the scariest truth about the UFO phenomenon?

r/HighStrangeness - What could be the scariest truth about the UFO phenomenon?

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r/aliens icon

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•

1y ago

Alien species and UFO shape

3 upvotes · 6 comments

Here is a Highstrangeness iceberg chart for people who are getting tired of UFO posts.

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

1mo ago

Here is a Highstrangeness iceberg chart for people who are getting tired of UFO posts.

r/HighStrangeness - Here is a Highstrangeness iceberg chart for people who are getting tired of UFO posts.

445 upvotes · 69 comments

This game needs flying saucer type ships. These basic shapes lend themselves easily to procedural generation, and I want to own a UFO.

r/NoMansSkyTheGame icon

r/NoMansSkyTheGame

•

5y ago

This game needs flying saucer type ships. These basic shapes lend themselves easily to procedural generation, and I want to own a UFO.

r/NoMansSkyTheGame - This game needs flying saucer type ships. These basic shapes lend themselves easily to procedural generation, and I want to own a UFO.

2.9K upvotes · 120 comments

The UFO Phenomenon Is Weirder Than You Think

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

5mo ago

The UFO Phenomenon Is Weirder Than You Think

544 upvotes · 125 comments

Just finished this UFO painting!

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

9d ago

Just finished this UFO painting!

r/HighStrangeness - Just finished this UFO painting!

2K upvotes · 80 comments

[WP] After finally establishing diplomatic relations with alien life, many were eager to finally answer the long unanswered questions on UFOs. Their response?

"We've seen those too, we also don't know what they are."

r/WritingPrompts icon

r/WritingPrompts

•

15d ago

[WP] After finally establishing diplomatic relations with alien life, many were eager to finally answer the long unanswered questions on UFOs. Their response?

"We've seen those too, we also don't know what they are."

377 upvotes · 12 comments

It was the year of the UFO in 2025. From new-age documentaries to decades-old mysterious reports coming to light, both experts and civilians have been baffled by a slew of new information regarding otherworldly objects appearing over the country's skies.

r/UFOB icon

r/UFOB

•

4d ago

It was the year of the UFO in 2025. From new-age documentaries to decades-old mysterious reports coming to light, both experts and civilians have been baffled by a slew of new information regarding otherworldly objects appearing over the country's skies.

r/UFOB - It was the year of the UFO in 2025. From new-age documentaries to decades-old mysterious reports coming to light, both experts and civilians have been baffled by a slew of new information regarding otherworldly objects appearing over the country's skies.

108 upvotes · 8 comments

Most common UFO Shapes Reported in each state

r/Maps

•

1y ago

Most common UFO Shapes Reported in each state

r/Maps - Most common UFO Shapes Reported in each state

6 upvotes · 1 comment

A serious theory about UFOs and why they might actually come from Earth

r/AliensRHere icon

r/AliensRHere

•

19d ago

A serious theory about UFOs and why they might actually come from Earth

94 upvotes · 62 comments

NASA has many High-resolution Photos of UFOs or Alien Spacecraft! See the testimony of a former NASA employee!

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

10mo ago

NASA has many High-resolution Photos of UFOs or Alien Spacecraft! See the testimony of a former NASA employee!

r/HighStrangeness - NASA has many High-resolution Photos of UFOs or Alien Spacecraft! See the testimony of a former NASA employee!

357 upvotes · 122 comments

Disappearing Elk: The UFO Connection

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

12d ago

Disappearing Elk: The UFO Connection

290 upvotes · 142 comments

UFO Whistleblower recounts his personal encounter with a large triangular UFO.
r/HighStrangeness icon
r/HighStrangeness

•

4mo ago

UFO Whistleblower recounts his personal encounter with a large triangular UFO.
742 upvotes · 51 comments
Falcon Lake UFO incident UPDATE!

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

4mo ago

Falcon Lake UFO incident UPDATE!

r/HighStrangeness - Falcon Lake UFO incident UPDATE!

16

659 upvotes · 125 comments

Are UFOs real?

r/teenpoll icon

r/teenpoll

•

8d ago

Are UFOs real?

170 upvotes · 39 comments

Experiencers report having recurrent dreams sometimes called the "night of lights" in which the nighttime sky is full of UFOs. What if many individuals suddenly started to recall past encounters with UFO intelligences?

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

5mo ago

Experiencers report having recurrent dreams sometimes called the "night of lights" in which the nighttime sky is full of UFOs. What if many individuals suddenly started to recall past encounters with UFO intelligences?

r/HighStrangeness - Experiencers report having recurrent dreams sometimes called the "night of lights" in which the nighttime sky is full of UFOs. What if many individuals suddenly started to recall past encounters with UFO intelligences?

67 upvotes · 35 comments

Anyone Occasionally Dream About UFOs?

r/aliens icon

r/aliens

•

4mo ago

Anyone Occasionally Dream About UFOs?

45 upvotes · 34 comments

Australia 1966 UFO Incident!

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

2mo ago

Australia 1966 UFO Incident!

r/HighStrangeness - Australia 1966 UFO Incident!

299 upvotes · 29 comments

UFO merges with another UFO

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

3mo ago

UFO merges with another UFO

r/HighStrangeness - UFO merges with another UFO

youtube

80 upvotes · 19 comments

7/18/25 MUFON Report UFO Looks Like The UFO Sighted In Australia 2 Months Ago.

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

5mo ago

7/18/25 MUFON Report UFO Looks Like The UFO Sighted In Australia 2 Months Ago.

22 upvotes · 7 comments

Ufo Sighting Lights In The Sky!

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

18d ago

Ufo Sighting Lights In The Sky!

r/HighStrangeness - Ufo Sighting Lights In The Sky!

84 upvotes · 15 comments

What are some entry level methods a regular guy like me could try communicating with aliens?

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

4d ago

What are some entry level methods a regular guy like me could try communicating with aliens?

47 upvotes · 130 comments

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Sciences and Exploration Directorate

Earth Sciences Division

Publication Abstracts

Stothers 2007

Stothers, R., 2007: Unidentified flying objects in classical antiquity.

Classical J., 103, 79-92.

A combined historical and scientific approach is applied to ancient reports of what might today be called unidentified flying objects (UFOs). Many conventionally explicable phenomena can be weeded out, leaving a small residue of puzzling reports. These fall neatly into the same categories as modern UFO reports, suggesting that the UFO phenomenon, whatever it may be due to, has not changed much over two millennia.

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A Brief History of Triangular UAPs : r/UFOs

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•
5y ago
arnfdn0

A Brief History of Triangular UAPs
Thought I would highlight some of the consistent characteristics from Triangular
UAP sightings throughout history. This would explain why some experts believe
that these peculiar UAPs could not possibly be explained by military prototypes
of alleged stealth tech.

The (5) Observables - For reference.

Positive Lift or Anti-Gravity: The ability to fly without apparent means of
propulsion or lift.

Instantaneous Acceleration: The ability for a craft to reach a high rate of
speed in a short amount of time.

Hypersonic Velocities: A craft's Ability to reach speeds of 3,700 miles per hour
(5x the Speed of Sound).

Low-Observability: A craft's ability to conceal itself from any kind of radar.

Trans-medium Travel: A craft's ability to move seamlessly through space, air and
water.

r/UFOs - Collage of Models, Sketches, and CGI renders based on eye witness
accounts.
Collage of Models, Sketches, and CGI renders based on eye witness accounts.
In Addition, above is a Collage of Drawings, Sketches, and 3D Models based on
several sightings around the world, including the ones listed below.

SIGHTINGS of Alleged Triangular UAPs

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs
1952.09.13 Denmark, Norway. NATO - Operation Mainbrace Sightings. This is the

earliest reported sighting of a triangular shaped UAP.

Observable: Instantaneous Acceleration

The Danish destroyer Willemoes, participating in the (NATO Operation) maneuvers, was north of Bornholm Island. During the night, Lieutenant Commander Schmidt Jensen and several members of the crew saw an unidentified object, triangular in shape, which moved at high speed toward the southeast. The object emitted a bluish glow. Commander Jensen estimated the speed at over 900 mph.

r/UFOs - 1957.11.12 Hazleton, Pennsylvania, USA.
1957.11.12 Hazleton, Pennsylvania, USA.
1957.11.12 Hazleton, Pennsylvania, USA.

Observable: Positive Lift or Anti-Gravity

"It had a light on each of its corners. with one corner real bright. This object came up slowly flashing on and off, lighting it up. I called my partner's attention to it. It was fantastic. When it got close it looked like a big Ferris Wheel. All of a sudden it stopped dead. It started to spin, then just like that started to go back. It looked like a spinning wheel. About two or three minutes later, it came back, much brighter than before."—James St. Mary, projectionist at The Capitol Theater.

Note: About a decade later there is record of an investigation conducted by Project Blue Book on an UFO sighting dated 1967.02.16. same town. The sighting involved "three lights" but Project Blue Book observed that:

It wasn't known where there were three objects or just one. [...] The lights went across the sky at a slow uniform speed. The witness said that the objects were moving too slow to be aircraft.

Project Blue Book's conclusion: Aircraft (Possible).

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs
1960.09.02 Cromwell, Connecticut, USA. Newspaper Clipping courtesy of u/MKULTRA_Escaper

Observable: Instantaneous Acceleration

"One minute it was hovering over the beach and the next moment it had zoomed up so high, it appeared to be one of the stars." [...] "It was weird. I don't mind telling you my wife was scared." [...] He said, he saw the object go up and off "at a terrific rate of speed."—Richard Ireton

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs
Unsolved Mysteries: Belgium UFO Wave (1989-1990)

1989.12.01 (or 02) Namur, Belgium. Report by Julien based on eye-witness account.

Observable: Positive Lift or Anti-Gravity + Instantaneous Acceleration

1990.03.31 Brussels, Belgium. This video report contains some of the radar data recorded by the Belgium Air Force. In addition, there was also visual observation by the Belgium police on the ground and military jet pilots in the air.

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs
1994. over North Illinois, USA. Sketch by eyewitness (Full account of events

here).

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs

1997.04.13 Phoenix, Arizona, USA. There were several enormous alleged UAP seen that night. Among the many sightings one of them matches the descriptions above: 3D-Rendered Video based on eyewitness accounts from the "Phoenix Lights Sighting." Where the alleged UAP was estimated to be around 2500 FT long. That is, humongous.

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs

2000.01.04. Missouri, USA. MUFON Article shows a model of an alleged Triangular UAP hovering over Missouri shortly before the Highland Sighting in Illinois.

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs

2000.01.05 Highland, Lebanon, Shiloh, Millstadt and Dupo, Illinois, USA.

[Trajectory Path of alleged UAP]

Observable: Positive Lift or Anti-Gravity

This sighting occurred during the wee hours of the morning, while most people were asleep. Which means there wasn't a lot of traffic in the streets. One of the eyewitnesses was Melvern Noll (who passed away in 2018) but at the time he was 66. At around 4:00 AM, Melvern wheeled his GMC Sonoma pickup into the parking lot of his trucking business, Fun Land of Highland. He described what happened next to the news:

"I happened to look toward the northeast, and seen, like, a bright star and never thought too much about it, just 'That's awful low for being a star.' I looked up and there it was, just like a big house floating in the air, with windows in it and a bright light on the inside, like there might've been a big room in there. [The object was] about the size of a football field. I just could hardly believe my eyes what I was seeing up there. I mean, there was no noise, nothing! And I was looking for wings and couldn't see no wings on it. I thought, 'What in the heck is it?' I just kept watching it, and at one point it seemed like it slowed down and I had the feeling it spotted me down here, and it scared the heck out of me. Then it kept a-going toward the southwest."

Source

Melvorn drove to the police station to report what he had seen, and so the call went on the police radio. Which started buzzing about the bright object in the sky. And thus policemen were dispatched to the area. You can hear some of the actual radio chatter on this Documentary Special. Which features the eye-witness account of some of the officers who came forward.

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs

Observable: Instantaneous Acceleration

"I was driving Eastbound on Driveway 50. when I see the object. The UFO, if you will. I first thought it was probably a bunch of helicopters flying in some type of formation. [...] I'm freaking out, I'm like: 'What the heck is this?' I docked into the left turn here. And I stopped right about here. I wanted to listen to see if I could hear any kind of engine noise. I could not hear anything. I tried to look again at the UFO. And it had already gone behind these trees. I put it in reverse to back up a couple of seconds. To see if I could re-acquire it again. By the time I had backed up and tried to see it, it had moved, at least a mile away. If not further. That quick! [Snaps Fingers] I was just astonished. I didn't know what to say. I was speechless."

Source.

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs
Video Footage from Hessladen, Norway. dated Novemver 17th, 2016.

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs
2015.04.28 Lima, Peru. Alleged Triangular UAP observed hovering by the sea coast.

Last but not least, this Eye-witness account from a Triangular UAP sighting near Carthage, Montana, USA circa 1989. On the subject of Triangular UAP. I recommend listening to this interview with David Marler author of Triangular UFOs: An Estimate of the Situation.

r/UFOs - A Brief History of Triangular UAPs

111

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39

Comments Section

gautsvo

•

5y ago

There is no need to put an "s" after UAP. The "P" stands for phenomena, which is the plural of phenomenon. ;)

4

u/arnfdn0 avatar

arnfdn0

OP

•

5y ago

Noted. You're right. Thanks for pointing this out. I'll update accordingly. Shit can't change title. Oh well.

4

la_mine_de_plomb

•

5y ago

Keeping the final "s" can help to make the meaning of the sentence clearer. It's even more justified if you would pronounce it orally.

3

1 more reply

[deleted]

•

5y ago

I saw a triangle craft years ago, super low, super quiet, scary. But I assume it was a TR-3B Or F1-17 . It was dusk so it was difficult to see exactly what it was, but it was huge . I live in the UK but there is an American Air Force base about 30 miles away, it's heavily protected / crazy security.

2

cghislai

•

5y ago

just to be complete concerning the belgium triangular photos: the petit-rechain one has been admitted hoaxed later (2011,

https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photographie_de_Petit-Rechain). The henrardi one was posted anonymously on an american site much later (2003 on iwasabducted.com, https://groups.google.com/g/francom.ovni/c/RQt_4AgLRqs/m/0kSR0EpckW8J).

Both of them should be considered with the amount of skepticism you see fit.

4

u/arnfdn0 avatar

arnfdn0

OP

•

5y ago

General Wilfried De Brouwer showed this photo in several press conferences including the Citizen Hearings in Washington Dc when he gave his testimony. He showed the photo to be legit. That's why incorporated it into the article.

6

cghislai

•

5y ago

i know, but that was before 2011. It has been seriously studied as well, in university of liege and nasa if i remember correctly. The hoax did not help for the credibility of the topic and for encouraging investigation by scientists.

edit: the washington event was in 2007 <https://youtu.be/5Z0omiQm028?list=PL22F696F76494F2D9&t=375>

3

2 more replies

u/Hopeful_Tea6367 avatar

Hopeful_Tea6367

•

5y ago

Thank you for compiling All this.

6

u/arnfdn0 avatar

arnfdn0

OP

•

5y ago

You're welcome. I think that the phenomenon is best understood when people find similarities and patterns among sightings from different decades. It helps form a bigger picture.

5

Erik7494

•

5y ago

That's an interesting overview, thanks for the work.

3

Medium_Dimension9602

•

5y ago

Saw one up close in Etna Maine in early 2000s. It was insane

3

ColStreetFly

•

5y ago

...and now you have a lot of typing to do. JK but some of us would really be interested in greater details. Where, size, sound, etc

3

Medium_Dimension9602

•

5y ago

It was in the early 2000s Etna Maine, a really large flying triangle was just over treetops almost gliding like, my 2 little cousins were outside climbing the tree we looked up saw this thing, ,it was insane! It was silent except an electrical humming sound, lights on all three points and a bigger light in the center, it suddenly shot off at an insane speed and a huge gust of wind came from it's sudden takeoff. The wind almost knocked little Austin out of the tree. It was the craziest thing I have ever seen

3

1 more reply

1 more reply

[deleted]

•

5y ago

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

•

5y ago

I have a couple more for you.

Here's an example of two newspaper clippings describing a craft basically identical in performance and appearance to one of the craft from the '89-90 Belgian Wave being sighted in 1960, witnessed by an Air Force vet, his family, his neighbors, and a police officer: <https://imgur.com/a/rQcis6a>

If you're on mobile and can't see it too well, this PDF has a high res version of the article "flying triangle seen in state."
<https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-17890272/documents/87f71dbd71994701b1ca4161226c96ec/Triangular%20UFOs%20-%20The%20Ongoing%20Historical%20Examination.pdf>

Or for both clippings, also see page 88 here:

http://www.cufos.org/UFO_History_Gross/1960_07_12_History.pdf

Newspaper source: <https://courant.newspapers.com/search/#query=flying+triangle>

This next one is not as good IMO and it may not have been the same type of object because there were no lights.

June 18, 1950:

Silent Triangular craft, Sweetwater, Texas: <https://imgur.com/a/LhgYdG0>

Newspaper source:

<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth283851/m1/14/zoom/?q=triangular%20saucer%20&resolution=4&lat=4463.000000000001&lon=2823.4999999999999>

1979 'Home Plate' sighting:

News segment on massive "baseball home plate-shaped craft" flying around in

Bridgewater Mass., spring of 1979, witnessed by two reporters and a number of other people in the area: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRe4SqCyulc>

48

u/arnfden0 avatar

arnfden0

OP

•

5y ago

Thank you so much. Let me look into these and I may add them into the post. 😊

18

cghislai

•

5y ago

Also concerning the ufo wave in Belgium, consider this 4 part video series going through the whole wave based on the sobeps book:

https://www.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/oe7bip/indepth_coverage_of_the_90_belgian_ufo_wave_8/h44ketm?utm_medium=android_app&utm_source=share&context=3

Also please consider removing the fake photos links or linking to the newest developpements. I also made a reddit post on the history of the henrardi one if it may help, here or on r/ufo

2

u/arnfden0 avatar

arnfden0

OP

•

5y ago

Awesome. Thanks. 👍

2

cghislai

•

5y ago

And thank you for this recap!

2

ConsiderationOdd3964

•

5y ago

Also have been seen in the Netherlands the triangular ufo.

10

ColStreetFly

•

5y ago

Please share your experience if you can. When, where (town/farm/work, etc), size, sound, behavior...

2

1 more reply

[deleted]

•

5y ago

Thank you for sharing

2

[deleted]

•

5y ago

I read a book that was fiction. In the book, all of these triangles are USAF black program aircraft. The TR-3B is the one you're most used to. The TR-6 TELOS is the massive, 1500 foot wide delta wing. It was shown over Phoenix in 96 and they learned a lot about the public. The TR-6 has dynamic, multifaceted, active camouflage. Most of these are absolutely 100% US black program air/space craft, and have made up the real US space since Apollo was "canceled". The Americans realized they were losing to the Soviets and simply stopped fucking telling everyone about what they were doing. WAY too many people in America were making decisions, and money and time was getting flushed down the fucking toilet. So Americans got smart and hid behind what was already there, waste, they just stopped wasting. The public no longer got to have a say right around the time the real advanced shit started coming out. Secret fleets and billions of smacks. JFK was gonna blow the lid on it so they blew the lid on JFK. American citizens LOVE thinking they're smarter than government, and nothing tickles their ass like being able to complain to each other "gosh darn it, the darn government keeps just wasting dollars, them washington boys sure are corrupt!" and everyone nods and drinks their fucking beers. Guess what dummies, your government knows that and is hiding the absolute COOLEST shit behind it. So NASA, this BS they're doing now with billionaires playing spaceman on their old-Model-T ass planes, all that just kept everyone looking too hard at just how did this secret space fleet get paid for. That was all in the fiction book I read I think it was called Harry Potter. None of this is true it's part of a Harry Potter book. UFOs have been debunked!

2

u/Origin_Unkown_ avatar

Origin_Unkown_

•

5y ago

Thank you for the research and thorough post. Syntax 10/10

Well done. Upvoted.

10

u/arnfden0 avatar

arnfden0

OP

•

5y ago

Thank you. 👍

7

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Three UFO/UAPs in triangular formation filmed flying over Williamsburg, Brooklyn 11.30pm this evening!

r/HighStrangeness icon

r/HighStrangeness

•

5y ago

Three UFO/UAPs in triangular formation filmed flying over Williamsburg, Brooklyn 11.30pm this evening!

r/HighStrangeness - Three UFO/UAPs in triangular formation filmed flying over Williamsburg, Brooklyn 11.30pm this evening!

8.7K upvotes · 1.1K comments

Are people still seeing triangular ufos/uaps?

r/UFOs icon

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1y ago

Are people still seeing triangular ufos/uaps?

16 upvotes · 28 comments

Massive black triangular UAP sighting from Vancouver Island BC last night.

r/UFOs icon

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Massive black triangular UAP sighting from Vancouver Island BC last night.

r/UFOs - Massive black triangular UAP sighting from Vancouver Island BC last night.

4

186 upvotes · 58 comments

Triangular-shaped #UFO #UAP sighted flying over #Amman, #Jordan on May 11, 2022 at 3:47 AM

r/jordan icon

r/jordan

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4y ago

Triangular-shaped #UFO #UAP sighted flying over #Amman, #Jordan on May 11, 2022 at 3:47 AM

r/jordan - Triangular-shaped #UFO #UAP sighted flying over #Amman, #Jordan on May 11, 2022 at 3:47 AM

youtu

2 upvotes · 15 comments

Triangle UAP filmed in 2002

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Triangle UAP filmed in 2002

r/UFOs - Triangle UAP filmed in 2002

190 upvotes · 44 comments

Triangular slow-flying UFO/UAP over Medellin, Colombia. Jan 7 '23. Taken from my phone from a 11th story balcony. Drone?

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Triangular slow-flying UFO/UAP over Medellin, Colombia. Jan 7 '23. Taken from my phone from a 11th story balcony. Drone?

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123 upvotes · 54 comments

UAP sighting? What did I just take a picture of...

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6mo ago

UAP sighting? What did I just take a picture of...

r/UFOs - UAP sighting? What did I just take a picture of...

15

449 upvotes · 123 comments

Is anyone else tired of the UAP "Personalities" displacing actual researchers?

r/UFOs icon

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•

10mo ago

Is anyone else tired of the UAP "Personalities" displacing actual researchers?

267 upvotes · 84 comments

My uap sighting (report)

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

7d ago

My uap sighting (report)

r/UFOs - My uap sighting (report)

2

73 upvotes · 11 comments

Finally – UAPGERB starting to get the recognition he deserves.

r/UFOs icon

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10mo ago

Finally – UAPGERB starting to get the recognition he deserves.

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youtu

305 upvotes · 95 comments

I digitally zoomed into a UAP I filmed from my backyard to see its triangle shape.

r/UFOs icon

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•

1y ago

I digitally zoomed into a UAP I filmed from my backyard to see its triangle shape.

r/UFOs - I digitally zoomed into a UAP I filmed from my backyard to see its triangle shape.

20 upvotes · 37 comments

Historical footage of UAP23

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r/UFOs

•

3mo ago

Historical footage of UAP23

r/UFOs - Historical footage of UAP23

887 upvotes · 55 comments

Insights / Data: Triangle UAP

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

7mo ago

Insights / Data: Triangle UAP

r/UFOs - Insights / Data: Triangle UAP

8

37 upvotes · 32 comments

Ever wonder how honest and transparent Australia is on UAPs (UFOs)?

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

7mo ago

Ever wonder how honest and transparent Australia is on UAPs (UFOs)?

r/UFOs - Ever wonder how honest and transparent Australia is on UAPs (UFOs)?

144 upvotes · 18 comments

Witnesses for the upcoming UAP hearing.

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Witnesses for the upcoming UAP hearing.

r/UFOs - Witnesses for the upcoming UAP hearing.

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Where might UAPs come from? A mapped exploration

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7mo ago

Where might UAPs come from? A mapped exploration

r/UFOs - Where might UAPs come from? A mapped exploration

132 upvotes · 21 comments

HUGE UFO/UAP TRIANGLE UPSTATE NY

r/alien icon

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•

1y ago

HUGE UFO/UAP TRIANGLE UPSTATE NY

124 upvotes · 43 comments

One plane and one uap?

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•

3mo ago

One plane and one uap?

r/UFOs - One plane and one uap?

85 upvotes · 16 comments

All the relevant UAP updates from Jul 21-27

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5mo ago

All the relevant UAP updates from Jul 21-27

41 upvotes · 6 comments

All the relevant UAP updates from Aug 4-10

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5mo ago

All the relevant UAP updates from Aug 4-10

149 upvotes · 15 comments

What do you think is the most consequential thought provoking aspect about UAP that prevents disclosure?

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21d ago

What do you think is the most consequential thought provoking aspect about UAP that prevents disclosure?

30 upvotes · 127 comments

UFOs/UAP are a Global Phenomena.

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3mo ago

UFOs/UAP are a Global Phenomena.

r/UFOs - UFOs/UAP are a Global Phenomena.

113 upvotes · 7 comments

Appalachian ufo/uap

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3mo ago

Appalachian ufo/uap

r/UF0s - Appalachian ufo/uap

105 upvotes · 29 comments

Truer words have never been spoken...

r/UF0s icon

r/UF0s

•

8mo ago

Truer words have never been spoken...

r/UF0s - Truer words have never been spoken...

445 upvotes · 127 comments

UAPs in North Scottsdale / Phoenix AZ Area

r/UF0s icon

r/UF0s

•

1mo ago

UAPs in North Scottsdale / Phoenix AZ Area

r/UF0s - UAPs in North Scottsdale / Phoenix AZ Area

53 upvotes · 11 comments

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The Debrief

UAP

'Fast Movers' and Transmedium Vehicles – The Pentagon's Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force

Tim McMillan·December 2, 2020

In an exclusive feature for The Debrief, U.S. military and intelligence officials, as well as Pentagon emails, offer an unprecedented glimpse behind the scenes of what's currently going on with The Pentagon's investigation into UFOs, or as they term them, "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena" (UAP).

For the last two years, the Department of Defense's newly revamped "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force" (or UAPTF) has been busy briefing lawmakers, Intelligence Community stakeholders, and the highest levels of the U.S. military on encounters with what they say are mysterious airborne objects that defy conventional explanations.

Along with classified briefings, multiple senior U.S. officials with direct

knowledge of the matter say two classified intelligence reports on UAP have been widely distributed to the U.S. intelligence community. Numerous sources from various government agencies told The Debrief that these reports include clear photographic evidence of UAP. The reports also explicitly state that the task force is considering the possibility that these unidentified objects could, as stated by one source from the U.S. intelligence community, be operated by "intelligences of unknown origin."

Significantly, a retired U.S. Air Force brigadier general and head of RAND corporation's Space Enterprise Initiative has – for the first time – gone on record to discuss some of the most likely explanations for UAP. His responses were surprising.

US Navy

U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Hillary Becke

Briefings At The Highest Levels

In June, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence's FY2021 Intelligence Authorization Act contained an intriguing section titled "Advanced Aerial Threats." In its inclusion, the committee gave an eye-opening official hint that the government has taken UFOs seriously in recent history by offering its support for the "efforts of the Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon Task Force at the Office of Naval Intelligence." The Intelligence Committee additionally requested an unclassified report detailing the analysis of "UAP" or "Anomalous Aerial Vehicles."

Though already acknowledged by the Intelligence Committee, the Pentagon formally acknowledged in mid-August that they had established a task force looking into UAP. In a press announcement, the Office of the Secretary of Defense stated, "the UAPTF's mission will be to detect, analyze and catalog UAPs that could potentially pose a threat to U.S. national security." According to the release, authority for the task force was approved by the Department of Defense's (DoD) chief operating officer, Deputy Secretary of Defense David L. Norquist.

The summer news of the establishment of the UAPTF seemingly suggests – for the first time since the shuttering of Project Blue Book, the Air Force's official investigations into UFOs, in 1969 – that the Pentagon is now taking the subject of UFOs seriously.

However, an internal email obtained by The Debrief shows that almost one year before the DoD's announcement, the highest levels of the U.S. military were already being briefed on UAP.

UAP Task Force Briefs the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Copy of the email obtained by The Debrief via FOIA

The email, obtained via Freedom of Information Act request, shows an October 16th, 2019 exchange between then-Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Robert Burke, and current Vice Chief of Staff for the Air Force, General Stephen "Seve" Wilson.

In the email, Adm. Burke tells Gen. Wilson, "Recommend you take the brief I just received from our Director of Naval Intelligence VADM Matt Kohler, on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP)." Adm. Burke concludes the email, "SECNAV [Secretary of the Navy] will get the same brief tomorrow at 1000."

The "SECNAV" referenced in Adm. Burke's email was then-Secretary of the Navy, Richard V. Spencer. A little over a month after this UAP briefing, Spencer was fired by then-Secretary of Defense Mark Esper over public disagreements stemming from a series of controversies involving the court-martial of Navy SEAL Eddie Gallagher.

Speaking on background, one U.S. Defense official lamented that a lack of continuity with DoD leadership might have hindered some of the UAPTF's work. Within the past 24 months, there have been four different Secretaries of the Navy and five additional Secretaries of Defense. Vice Admiral Matt Kohler, noted

for having provided the briefings, retired after 36 years with the Navy in June of this year.

Vice Adm. Robert Burke

Vice Adm. Robert Burke – U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Charles D. Gaddis IV

Reaching out to several active government officials and individuals who retain their government-issued security clearances, The Debrief learned that last fall was a busy time for the UAPTF. On October 21st, 2019, a briefing on UAP was conducted at the Pentagon for several Senate Armed Services Committee staffers.

Attendees at the meeting told The Debrief that they were provided information on two previous DoD-backed UFO programs: the Advanced Aerospace Weapon System Applications Program (AAWSAP) and the Advanced Aerospace Threat and Identification Program (AATIP). They were also briefed on “highly sensitive categories of UFO investigations.” Only two days later on October 23rd, staffers with the Senate Select Intelligence Committee were provided the same information in a meeting on Capitol Hill.

A former private contractor for AAWSAP and AATIP, Dr. Hal Puthoff, told The Debrief though he wasn’t present for the October briefings, he had on several occasions in the past two years been asked to make presentations for lawmakers. “I have been invited to brief congressional staffers on the Senate Armed Services Committee on UAP matters in the last couple of years,” Puthoff said in an email, “and have done so on more than one occasion.” Dr. Puthoff described the staffers during these meetings as being “engaged,” providing “positive responses, [and] more details always being requested.”

The Pentagon Press Briefing Room

The Pentagon Press Briefing Room seal (Credit: DoD/photo by Lisa Ferdinando)
The Debrief reached out to the office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs and DoD’s Executive Services Office and formally requested an interview with someone authorized to speak on the UAP briefings with the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In an email, Senior Strategist and Pentagon spokesperson Susan Gough responded, “To maintain operations security, which includes not disseminating information publicly that may be useful to our adversaries, DOD does not discuss publicly the details of either the observations or the examination of reported incursions into our training ranges or designated airspace, including those incursions initially designated as UAP – and that includes not discussing the UAPTF publicly, also.”

Official public affairs channels indicate the Pentagon is not interested in sharing any more information on the UAP topic. However, several current and former officials with the DoD and individuals working for multiple U.S. intelligence agencies told The Debrief that there was much more going on behind closed doors.

UAP Intelligence Position Reports

Multiple sources confirmed for The Debrief that the UAPTF had issued two classified intelligence position reports, which one individual described as “shocking.” Details provided on these reports suggest both a greater degree of Pentagon involvement and that the UAPTF’s hunt for unidentified objects isn’t confined only to aerial phenomena.

Two officials with the DoD and one from the U.S. intelligence community were willing to provide details on the contents of the classified report. An additional three other U.S. intelligence officials and a federal law enforcement officer confirmed the report’s existence but were only willing to provide comments on their distribution. Given the report’s classification and their discussion of a “sensitive intelligence matter,” the officials we spoke with did so only under strict conditions of anonymity. While The Debrief has agreed not

to provide information on sources, identities, and employers, everyone we spoke with works within the U.S. intelligence community and under the authority of the U.S. Director of National Intelligence.

UAP Task Force Provides Intelligence Reports on UAP

Aerial view of the headquarters of the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) in Chantilly, Virginia, by Trevor Paglen

One of the intelligence reports, released in early 2019, is said to have provided a general overview of the UAP topic and included details of previous military encounters. According to sources who had read it, the report also contained an unreleased photograph of "aerial phenomena" categorized as "unidentified." [Editor's Note: The original version of this article said the image was captured in 2018. Subsequent information later confirmed the date to be March 2019. See: Pentagon Confirms Leaked UFO Images Are Authentic.]

The Debrief was told the accompanying photo was captured from within the cockpit of an F/A-18 fighter jet with a pilot's personal cell phone. According to three U.S. officials who had seen it, the photo showed an unidentified silver "cube-shaped" object. The report is said to have indicated the object was "hovering" or completely motionless when military pilots encountered it. All three officials agreed that based on the photo, the object appeared to be at an altitude of roughly 30,000 to 35,000 feet and approximately 1,000 feet from the fighter jet.

Defense and intelligence officials willing to discuss the report and those who only wished to confirm its dissemination all expressed shock that it had been so widely distributed amongst the intelligence community.

"In decades with the [Intelligence Community] I've never seen anything like this," said one intelligence official.

One defense official described the report's distribution as having gone through "normal, non-public, information sharing channels." Other officials who'd seen and read the report either declined to elaborate or indicated the report was distributed on various secure systems. One defense official indicated it was distributed on the DoD's Secret Internet Protocol Router Network (SIPRNet). Two other intelligence officials said they received the information via NSANet (the NSA's official intranet). An additional source said the report was distributed via the CIA's Intelink system.

According to those willing to discuss the document, the report's most disconcerting aspect was one of the potential explanations provided for what UAP could represent. Sources say a "list" of possible prosaic explanations for these mysterious airborne encounters was provided, however the report expressly stated that the potential for UAP to be "alien" or "non-human" technology was of legitimate consideration.

All sources interviewed by The Debrief confirmed that the task force issued an updated second UAP position report later in the summer of this year. Like the first, officials say this recent intelligence report was very widely distributed and shared amongst the intelligence community.

"It went viral," said one intelligence official who had read the report.

UAP Task Force Triangle UAP

Artist Rendition (Dave Beaty/ The Debrief)

Overwhelmingly, everyone The Debrief spoke with said the most striking feature of the recently released UAPTF intelligence position report was the inclusion of a new and "extremely clear" photograph of an unidentifiable triangular aircraft.

The photograph, which is said to have also been taken from inside the cockpit of a military fighter jet, depicted an apparent aerospace vehicle described as a large equilateral triangle with rounded or "blunted" edges and large, perfectly spherical white "lights" in each corner. Officials who had seen it said the

image was captured in 2019 by an F/A-18 fighter pilot.

Two officials that received the report said the photo was taken after the triangular craft emerged from the ocean and began to ascend straight upwards at a 90-degree angle. It was indicated that this event occurred off the eastern coast of the United States. Several other sources confirmed the photo's existence; however, they declined to provide any further specifics of the incident.

Officials who read the recent report say it primarily focused on "Unidentified Submersible Phenomena," or unidentified "transmedium" vehicles capable of operating both underwater and in the air.

The three officials we spoke with said the report suggested the UAP Task Force appears to be concerned that the objects being termed as UAP may be originating from within the world's oceans. Strange as this may sound, the idea of "USOs," or "unidentified submersible objects," is not something exclusive to the current UAPTF.

In various public appearances, astronomer and chief video/image analyst for the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), Marc D'Antonio, has shared an unusual experience involving the detection of an underwater "Fast Mover," which occurred while he was sailing as a civilian aboard one of the U.S. Navy's prized attack submarines.

Last year, defense journalist Tyler Rogoway spoke with several veteran submariners to get their take on D'Antonio's account. While at least one person expressed skepticism about D'Antonio being granted a civilian ride-along, the Navy vets being interviewed almost unanimously acknowledged that unexplained, very high-speed sonar targets are indeed recorded by some of the most sophisticated listening equipment on the planet.

Agreeing to speak only on background, a senior member of the intelligence community whose responsibilities for decades involved underwater surveillance and reconnaissance programs told The Debrief there was validity to claims of extremely fast-moving underwater objects being detected by U.S. military systems.

"On occasion, there are detections made of non-cavitational, extremely fast-moving objects within the ocean." The intelligence official declined to elaborate further, citing the high levels of security classification associated with underwater reconnaissance.

Officials who had read the reports say the UAPTF appears particularly interested in "transmedium vehicles." While this may seem unusual, many accounts exist – some going back centuries – in which people say they have observed unidentifiable craft operating in and out of the water.

The Debrief reached out to Steven Zaloga, co-author of the annual World Military Unmanned Aerial Systems Market Profile & Forecast and senior defense analyst for the Teal Group in Virginia, about the state of current or near-future development of "transmedium" vehicles or systems. Zaloga indicated he was unaware of any past or present technologies that are close to being capable of transitioning between air and submersible travel. "I have no idea what-so-ever on objects able to cross the air/water barrier," Zaloga said in an email.

Artist Rendition (Dave Beaty/ The Debrief)

Artist Rendition (Dave Beaty/ The Debrief)

What is The Pentagon Officially Saying ABOUT UAP?

Although The Debrief learned of the issuance and information reportedly detailed in the two UAPTF intelligence position reports, officials we spoke with declined to provide any specifics as to why the most recent report focused on waterborne associations with UAP.

One active defense official familiar with the current UAP investigations said the UAPTF has a wealth of photographic evidence, collected from military pilots' personal devices as well as sophisticated DoD surveillance and reconnaissance platforms. The source also told us some of the best evidence the UAPTF has acquired comes from measurement and signature intelligence (MASINT), rather than from videos or still images.

Although officials we spoke with didn't provide any specifics to this point, it is assumed that any Top Secret or Sensitive Compartmentalized Information used to help form the UAPTF's current opinions would not have been included in the UAP position reports, based on their widespread distribution.

Before publication, The Debrief reached out to The Pentagon for comment on the information leaked from the UAPTF reports. Pentagon spokesperson Susan Gough did not confirm or deny the existence of the UAP intelligence reports and declined to make any comment on their contents. We followed up and requested the current media posture outlined by the official public affairs guide for UAP and dictated by Department of Defense policy (DoDI 5405.03). Ms. Gough referred back to her previous statement, indicating that the DoD does not discuss UAP publicly. As noted elsewhere, refusal by the Pentagon to discuss UAP is hardly anything new.

In 2017, then-Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs Dana White confirmed to Politico that the DoD had studied UFOs under AATIP. Additionally, White said the program had been run by the former Director for the National Programs Special Management Staff for the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence, Luis Elizondo. In an effort to "correct the record," however, the Pentagon issued a statement in December 2019 saying AATIP was not UAP-related, and that Elizondo had "no responsibilities" in the program.

In May of this year, The Debrief informed the Pentagon Public Affairs Office that we had conducted a number of interviews with former senior Pentagon officials and a senior White House advisor, as well as obtained documents, all of which showed AATIP was involved in UAP investigations and that Luis Elizondo was indeed the custodian of the AATIP portfolio. Additionally, information obtained showed elements of the Defense Intelligence Agency and National Reconnaissance Office had participated in AATIP.

Though this request was less than six months after the Pentagon's "no responsibilities" statement, their spokeswoman Gough replied, "Please keep in mind he [Elizondo] left DoD over three years ago, and there are personnel and privacy matters involved."

Unit 29155

See Also

Explosive Investigation Links Russia's Shadowy "Unit 29155" to 'Havana Syndrome' Attacks on U.S. Officials Worldwide

Given the recent presidential election results and impending transfer of executive power, The Debrief reached out to the transition team for President-Elect Joe Biden. While not explicitly discussing UAP, a transition team spokesperson said Biden intends to "[i]mmediately return to daily press briefings at the White House, U.S. Department of State, and U.S. Department of Defense. Our foreign policy relies on the informed consent of the American people. That is not possible when our government refuses to communicate with the public."

[Editor's Note, April 10, 2021: After additional photos, briefing slides, and a video depicting purported UAP were leaked in April 2021, The Pentagon confirmed the images were captured by U.S. Navy personnel and the materials were used in part of the investigations by the UAP Task Force. See: Pentagon Confirms Leaked

UFO Images Are Authentic.]

U.S. Navy photo/Petty Officer 2nd Class James R. Evans.

U.S. Navy photo/Petty Officer 2nd Class James R. Evans.

What Does It All Mean?

From closed-door meetings to senior military leadership and the issuance of classified intelligence reports, all indications suggest the DoD is indeed taking the UAP issue seriously. What new information has come to light about the government's UAP investigations provides us with few answers, however, and certainly raises a number of questions.

Classification has long surrounded the U.S. government's most sophisticated airborne platforms, however when it comes to underwater systems, the extremity of official secrecy falls into a class by itself. For instance, retired Navy Admiral Bobby Ray Inman acknowledged decades ago that he served as director for the National Underwater Reconnaissance Office (NURO); yet despite this, to date the government denies that the NURO even exists.

Even if the Senate Select Intelligence Committee's request for an unclassified UAP report ends up being enacted in the FY2021 Intelligence Act, legislative experts have pointed out that the UAP report provision is not binding law. In essence, there's no guarantee the public will be provided any comprehensive information on UAP. While Congress is required to have access to classified information, only the executive branch has the authority to declassify national security information in order to make it public.

Should the DoD become more willing to discuss UAP publicly, there are plenty of indications that it might be a disappointment compared to many of the popular myths and narratives intertwined with the UFO subject over the last 70 years.

Every source The Debrief spoke with who had either seen the published position reports or was familiar with the activities of the UAPTF said that no concise estimate of the situation for UAP has been achieved. While they acknowledged that many hypotheses are being explored, the U.S. government presently lacks any definite explanation for UAP-related events.

Focusing on the DoD's statements that the mission of the UAPTF is to "detect, analyze and catalog UAPs that could potentially pose a threat to U.S. national security," The Debrief spoke with retired U.S. Air Force Brigadier General Bruce McClintock.

UAP Task Force Issues Two Intelligence Reports on UAP

Official Photo - Brig Gen Bruce McClintock (U.S. Air Force Photo by Michael Pausic)

During his 30-year career with the Air Force, McClintock's assignments included White House Fellow to President George W. Bush, Executive Assistant to the Commander of NORAD, Executive Assistant to the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Special Assistant to the Commander of Air Force Space Command. Before retiring in 2017, Gen. McClintock amassed more than 3,000 flight hours on more than 35 aircraft, including the A-10, F-15B/D, F-16A/B/C/D, and the F-111. Presently, Gen. McClintock heads up the RAND corporation's Space Enterprise Initiative and serves as the focal point for all RAND space-related research for the U.S. government and U.S. allies.

McClintock was dismissive of the idea that U.S. military encounters with UAP could be related to any form of classified aerospace testing.

"It is unlikely that the U.S. government would intentionally conduct tests against its own unwitting military assets," he told The Debrief in an interview. "To do so would require a very high level of coordination and approval for the

potential safety and operational security risks.”

In separate interviews last year, aerospace engineer and Area 51 veteran T.D. Barnes and former CIA executive S. Eugene “Gene” Poteat both suggested radar detections by the Navy of extreme aerial maneuvers sounded suspiciously similar to a top-secret electronic warfare program they were involved with in the 1960s, codenamed PALLADIUM.

However, Poteat and Barnes acknowledged they had no explanation for any of the physical sightings by military aviators. Coinciding with Gen. McClintock’s comments, both men said everyone involved in any classified assessments involving the use of classified aerospace platforms was made aware they were participating in a test. This even included times when the platforms were deemed “UFOs because they were so secret that they didn’t exist.”

McClintock, who also served as Senior Defense Attaché to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, seemed equally doubtful that UAP might represent the technology of a foreign adversary.

“It is not outside the realm of the plausible that an adversary would test the ability of the United States to detect some new capability, although it would be more likely they would only do this after testing the capability within or closer to their own territory before trying to penetrate U.S. airspace,” he stated.

Ultimately, after asking numerous current and former defense officials and subject matter experts, The Debrief has been unable to find anyone of authority – whether on or off the record – willing to say the UAP encounters reported by military aviators are consistent with black budget testing, or “ferreting” of U.S. air defense by foreign governments. Equally, we have been unable to find anyone of credentialed background willing to say what, exactly, this means the source of these UAP could be.

Offering the Pentagon one final opportunity to discuss what we intended to report or to comment on McClintock’s statement, The Debrief once more reached out to spokeswoman Susan Gough. Our offer went unanswered.

At least from an official position, the source behind unidentified aerial phenomena appears to remain a mystery.

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Correction: December 3, 2020: An earlier version of this article inaccurately indicated Dr. Hal Puthoff had provided meetings for Congressional staffers on October 21 and 23 of 2019. Dr. Puthoff contacted The Debrief after publication to clarify that, while he had briefed staffers for principle elected leadership on numerous occasions, there was a miscommunication in his previous statements to us regarding the specific briefings mentioned. As reported by the New York Times in July of this year, the briefings that occurred on October 21st and 23rd of 2019 were provided by Dr. Eric Davis.

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While most UFO photos and videos can individually be doubted, the overall body of evidence paints a far clearer picture than a photograph ever could.

UFO: an anomalous technological flying object that humans likely didn't create.

This will be in two parts. In the first, I explain why genuine photos and videos of anything at all, which includes UFOs, would be guaranteed to contain some

sort of imperfection or disqualifying feature within them. At the end, I share a list of ~500 photos. In the second, I put this into context with other examples of other kinds of evidence, such as declassified documents, governments officially admitting that UFOs are real and that they could be aliens, physical evidence, radar cases, etc.

If you find some sort of disqualifier within a case, such as in a photo, a video, a witness, or in the circumstances of the case, does that count as "failing to hold up to scrutiny?" It depends on how likely it is that a genuine photo or video would have one of these disqualifiers, and since so many such disqualifiers are out there (I cite 19 of them below), it seems to be guaranteed you'll find one anyway because you only have to pick one. The problem is that when a person cites such a disqualifier as good enough to dismiss the material as a hoax, they assume it's unlikely that such a thing will be present in genuine material. In fact, one of these is so likely to be found in genuine imagery, sometimes you can find two or more. This means that tons of genuine photos and videos have been incorrectly discredited. That doesn't mean that all of the material that has been discredited in this fashion is automatically true, but it does mean there is a lot of material that needs to be revisited based on these considerations. This also means genuine photos and videos of UFOs are just hiding in plain sight among all the fakes and misidentifieds, so this is quite the dilemma.

Once such a thing is discredited, depending on how compelling it seems that it was, this significantly reduces the visibility of it because nobody wants to cite an "obvious hoax." It's then buried and forgotten. The only imagery everyone agrees is genuine are blurry dots in the sky, so that's what we focus on.

Here are 19 objections to dismiss UFO imagery that could each be present in genuine material, and I believe it is guaranteed that between 1-4 of them will be present in a single genuine photo or video:

Hobbies and occupations- The witness may be found to have a model-making hobby (that's how doubt was cast upon the 2007 Costa Rica video), a witness may be a VFX hobbyist like millions of other people, a special effects artist, (which happened to this video showing instantaneous acceleration in which one of the witnesses turned out to be a special effects artist who worked on a few alien movies), etc. Perhaps the witness has some kind of paranormal youtube channel. What are the odds such a person would capture the perfect ufo video? Impossible, must be a hoax. This means that the body of acceptable witnesses is already reduced based on the occupations and hobbies of those witnesses.

Resemblance to a prior hoax- If the UFO photo or video happens to resemble a prior hoax, that is also enough to discredit it, even though hoaxes are often based on witness descriptions and real events. After all, to make a hoax convincing, it has to look like the real thing. So many hoaxes have been created, the odds are not that low that a hoax will resemble a genuine event. This is how the Calvine UFO photo was debunked as a hoax inspired by a former hoax. This is also how the Flir 1 video was debunked as a CGI hoax (along with the fact that it first appeared on a German VFX website). In fact, it can also be the other way around. What if the video resembles a future hoax, as if somebody simply recreated it using CGI? That is apparently also enough to debunk it because this happened to the 2009 El Rosario footage here.

Resemblance to science fiction or art- The same problem above applies to science fiction and art. So much art and science fiction has been created, you are bound to find some that resembles some UFO sightings and photographs, then you can allege that the witness is a hoaxer who was inspired by that thing. In fact, this is such a big problem that an entire conspiracy subculture known as "predictive programming" arose from it because you can find so many pieces of fiction that resembles future events. This video, for example shows all of the fiction that predicted 9/11, sometimes quite accurately.

Resemblance to man made objects- It may be found that the object resembles a man made object, even though we have made quadrillions of objects of all shapes, colors, and sizes, and many of them have been photographed from a wide variety of angles and lighting conditions. Perhaps if it has just enough blurriness, or it's just far enough away, your brain can imagine the UFO being that object. This automatically reduces the acceptable appearance of what a real UFO photo or video should look like. The simpler the UFO shape is, the more likely it will very closely match a man made object. This is how the Rex Heflin photographs were discredited. It was found that Rex Heflin had a model train hobby, somewhat common for that era, and model train wheels very closely resemble the object in the photographs. This is also how the McMinnville UFO photographs were discredited. They very closely resemble a vehicle side view mirror. [note: they used a very poor, blurry upload of one of the photographs to compare to] This is also how the Calvine UFO photograph was debunked as an arrowhead.

In my opinion, these are most often an expected coincidence because you're likely to find such an object that closely resembles a UFO anyway because we've made quadrillions of things. Therefore, the compelling nature of discovering such a resemblance is a pure illusion and has nothing whatsoever to do with the authenticity of a photograph unless the UFO has such an intricate design that it makes discovering such a resemblance unlikely.

If you simply reverse image search some random model train wheel, you can find tons of things that resemble it as well, from a close resemblance all the way to not much resemblance at all. For any particular relatively simple-looking ufo in a photo, at least one skeptic will reverse image search the right thing and will happen to locate an object that resembles it closely.

5) Not a perfect resemblance to man made objects, but you have wiggle room to assume alteration of the image- Even if the UFO in a photograph cannot be matched to a man made object, so many man made objects have been created, there will be at least one that closely resembles it, then you can assume the 'hoaxer' took that photograph and altered it in some fashion to make it look like a UFO. This is how the Calvine UFO photograph was discredited as a mountain. This is also how this extremely clear early 2000s UFO was discredited as a water tower.

6) Resemblance to a patent- even if you can't find an existing man made object that resembles a UFO, you can look through tons of patents. More than 1 million patents are granted every year globally, so of course you'll be able to explain away some UFO sightings as being examples of a particular patent even if it doesn't actually exist or doesn't still exist, and even if there is contradictory information in the UFO case that suggests it wasn't that device.

7) Date it was filmed, or date it was released- Perhaps the video film/release date happens to be April Fool's day, therefore it's an obvious joke. Perhaps it resembles a fireball and there happens to be a 5 day long meteor shower that the video fell under, or it happened to be filmed on the 4th of July or Memorial day. If the object is red/green, or it vaguely resembles a sled, perhaps it was filmed or released on Christmas or Christmas day. Between Christmas eve, Christmas day, July 4th, April Fool's day, Memorial day, and the dates of various meteor showers, rocket launches, and space debris reentries, you have a decent chance of discrediting a video just by pointing out the date.

8) Resemblance to astronomical or nature-made objects- it may be found that the UFO somewhat resembles an astronomical or nature-made thing, such as any number of bird species and bugs, or if the UFO is luminous, call it ball lightning, a star, Venus, or a firefly. If you exhausted the pool of quadrillions of man-made objects and still can't find anything to resemble the UFO, you still have these two pools of things to choose from.

9) Too shaky or too smooth- The video may either be too shaky or too smooth. This automatically reduces the acceptable shakiness of a UFO video. In reality, there is a wide spectrum of videos of everything out there, from perfectly smooth to extremely shaky.

10) Too blurry or too clear- It may either be too blurry, or too clear and therefore too good to be true. This automatically reduces the acceptable clarity or blurriness of a UFO video. In reality, there is a wide spectrum of videos of everything out there, from extremely blurry to extremely clear.

11) Proximity to military base, or resemblance to real or theoretical aircraft designs- Perhaps a military base is nearby because quite a lot of them exist, and you could say it's probably a military aircraft. This automatically reduces the acceptable locations of where a legitimate UFO photograph could be taken. And since so many theoretical aircraft designs have been created over the years, the odds are you'll be able to find one that resembles it. This resemblance is also how the Calvine photograph was debunked as a top secret aircraft.

12) Coincidentally behaves in a way reminiscent of CGI- If the UFO moves in a strange way as witnesses have described, then perhaps it's "obviously CGI." Then you ridicule the person who posted it so they learn their lesson. This automatically reduces the acceptable behavior depicted in a legitimate UFO video.

13) Suspicious origin or association- If the UFO video or photo was first uploaded to a popular, but discredited youtube channel, such as SecureTeam10, Thirdphase, etc because the witness wasn't very familiar with the subject and just chose the first popular channel they saw, this automatically reduces the acceptable likely websites or channels where it should first appear. This is also how the Flir1 video was discredited as CGI. It was found that it first appeared on a German VFX company's website.

Even some of the most popular CGI youtube channels could have real videos on them. For example, Section51, which pumps out CGI videos constantly, hosts some of those, such as this one where a police helicopter actually did capture footage of something. The actual origin is here. Section51 unfortunately added their watermark to the video, which undoubtedly would cause some people to dismiss the video as a CGI hoax automatically. They did the same thing to the Costa Rica 2007 video and many others. This means that a bad association with a discredited character in ufology is not grounds for automatic dismissal.

14) The UFO is lit up or has lights on it- After all, why would an alien spaceship have lights? This automatically reduces the amount of acceptable videos to only those that weren't luminous, even though luminous UFOs go back at least to the 11th century. There are also very good reasons to assume UFOs could have lights.

15) Anonymity or new user -Due to ridicule and the fear of being labeled a dirty hoaxter, some UFO photos and videos are not going to come with a full witness name. This significantly reduces the amount of acceptable imagery of UFOs to only those that come with a full witness name. Similarly, a person who wants to upload a photo or video to social media might create a new account to do so. There are a lot of people who don't have a youtube, Reddit, or twitter account, but if they have a UFO video, there are fair odds they might create one specifically to post it. Therefore, anonymity or person being a new user are not characteristics that increase the odds that a person is a hoaxter. All it means is the person is rightly afraid of ridicule or they are new to a website.

16) It's just a photo- Perhaps a UFO photo, by some miracle, falls within each of those acceptable parameters and actually passes all of these tests despite all odds, which actually seems quite impossible to me, but let's assume it could happen. Then what? Oh, it's just a photo and photos are easier to fake, even though the average person takes photos of a range of other things, so they have fair odds to have chosen to just get a photo, especially if the event was fleeting. Must be a hoax.

17) Why not a confirmation video?- Perhaps a UFO video, by some miracle, falls within each of those acceptable parameters and actually passes all of these

tests despite all odds, then what? Where is the confirmation video? Perhaps you won't consider a video plausible unless there is at least one other person who also took a video that is also acceptably blurry, acceptably shaky, has an acceptable occupation and hobby, etc, etc.

18) A troll later reuploads the video and labels it CGI, or fabricates information about it, such as date, location, etc to cause confusion.- This one was uploaded supposedly as "Wales, UK," no date, luminous saucer-like object releasing glowing balls And it's also Mooca District in São Paulo, Brazil on August 8, 2021 (I think that might be correct and this is the original source)

For another example, this triangle video was debunked because somebody uploaded a copy of it and labeled it CGI 8 months after the original upload. While I would agree that one looks like CGI, to my untrained eye at least, I'd like the real reason why it is, not an incorrect one.

19) There is some kind of obscure feature of the video or photo that is not widely known, and can be used as evidence of manipulation- For one example of this, in photography, bright lights can sometimes partially or entirely "wash out" objects in front of them, making it seem like the "CGI artist" messed up. I'm not a photography nerd, so please correct me if I'm using the wrong wording here. For instance, in this extremely clear photograph of a flying saucer, the lights appear to be partially in front of the tree limbs. You can find a lot of random photos online of this happening, such as these photos of trees with the sun in the background, and a search light that appears larger than it is.

And that's obviously not all of them.

Additional commentary, 500 photos, and reworking how to view UFO evidence:

The reality is that a genuine UFO photograph or video will be taken by an average person under average circumstances, and a coincidence or "disqualifying" factor of some kind is likely to be present anyway, so it could fall anywhere along a vast range of blurriness and shakiness, it may be anonymous, etc. A VFX hobbyist, a model maker, or a special effects artist is just as likely to take a video as anyone else who has a similarly popular occupation or hobby.

On some other similar subject, such as secret aircraft enthusiasts, if they capture a photograph of such a secret aircraft, far fewer skeptical people will be digging around in the circumstances of the case, the witness's life, and how the UFO looks to discredit the photograph, let alone some other subject, such as bird photography. This means that UFO cases receive far more scrutiny than is otherwise typical, and far less conclusive evidence is needed to cast doubt upon it. Only a single sliver of doubt is needed, even if at least one of these objections is guaranteed to be in genuine material anyway. Only after the existence of the UFO is proven and undeniable will the general public give each photograph the proper level of scrutiny that is typical of anything else, so I think after that point comes, we will have a lot of people asking why so many legitimate photos are coming out suddenly. We need proper, fair scrutiny, not picking out expected coincidences.

I want to propose that we stop thinking about photos and videos in this way. You don't have to put any faith in any photo or video. Rather, I think it is a better idea to look at the body of photos and videos overall from a bird's eye view, at least all of those that have not been conclusively debunked as mundane or hoaxes, and own up to it when you don't have a good enough debunk for a piece of evidence. Isolating a particular photo alone and then asking "does this prove that alien spaceships are real," or "what is more likely, a hoax or an alien spaceship" is simply the wrong way to go about it. Here are like 500 photos: Archive 1. Keep clicking 'next' to scroll through the archive, or mess around with the menu on the side to sort them. Archive 2, Archive 3, Archive 4, Archive 5, Archive 6. While I personally would not have chosen some of these photos in some of these archives as examples of what are probably genuine photos (I see a couple birds, an example of bokeh, etc), some of them are really clear shots

depicting anomalous flying objects.

Other lines of evidence:

A) We also have quite a few officially-recorded leaked photos and videos of UFOs from various governmental bodies, the authenticity of which are not contested, some of which are easy to explain and some which aren't.

B) Declassified documents. There are tons of these out there, some quite interesting. For example, the 1947 Twining memo described the appearance and performance characteristics of flying discs, and stated that their conclusion was that the objects "are real, not visionary or fictitious."

C) Similarly to photos and videos, no single UFO whistleblower out there can by itself prove that "alien spaceships are real" because you can always say he theoretically could be a nut, but there have been way too many of them and much of their testimony is simply far too detailed to explain it as some kind of unfortunate misunderstanding. Hundreds of whistleblowers and leakers have come out. Don't follow and believe the claims of one single whistleblower because what if he's some disinformation agent or a charlatan? Instead, look at the body of that evidence as a whole and look for the signal.

D) Similarly, no single government officially declaring that UFOs are real by itself proves that UFOs are real. Or maybe it does, I don't know, but some governments have officially stated this already, and some have officially stated that they could be extraterrestrial, yet we still perceive that the existence of the UFO has not been proven yet. Instead, look at the body of government admissions as a whole and ask yourself what that shows. Even the current US Director of National Intelligence and former CIA Director John Brennan hinted that the objects could be extraterrestrial.

E) Similarly, does any one particular historical UFO case (pre-1940s) by itself prove that UFOs are real? No, but they certainly add to the mountain of overwhelming evidence. Here are some examples of those historical cases.

F) There are apparently thousands of physical evidence cases out there. These could be landing trace cases, like tripod imprints or circular impressions in the grass. Some of them have been investigated by official government bodies. Example 1 and example 2. There are also cases in which the UFO caused some sort of effect on the witness, such as burns. For most of them, you could probably isolate it by itself and come up with a theoretical explanation for it, but overall, it's pretty obvious what's going on.

G) There are also radar-visual cases, such as this one. Cases involving both radar and visual sightings don't get enough attention. The 1952 DC flap is a pretty good one, as was the 1989-90 Belgium Wave.

H) Trained observer reports- the perceived quality of a report should factor in the occupation of a witness. While it's obvious that police officers, civilian pilots, and military pilots aren't always perfect, overall they would probably give more accurate testimony than an average civilian. Here I look at the reasons why civilian pilots and military pilots in particular make much better witnesses to UFOs.

I) Multiple witness cases- When the descriptions of sightings of the objects are far too detailed to explain it away, generally the only options left are to accept them as basically true or assume a conspiracy. Notice that all whistleblower testimony, trained observer testimony, and corroborated testimony is combined together into "just witness testimony/hearsay, which is unreliable." In reality, if a police officer sees someone performing a crime, then writes it down in a report and says "this person did X, Y, and Z," the vast majority of the time, it will be pretty accurate, especially if another officer's report corroborated it. To dismiss it all as 'just hearsay' is simply not how the world works. A close-up, detailed sighting is far different from a vague, distant

light in the sky, so each case is different and has different amounts of corroborating evidence.

You don't have to find a singular, miraculous, possibly-impossible UFO video that passes every possible test to prove that UFOs exist. They exist because the body of evidence together demonstrates it. Consider a criminal case. If a lawyer really wanted to, he could argue that each and every piece of evidence you provide theoretically could be explained in some fashion, and even if it can't, it could have been some elaborate hoax and fabricated evidence, and all of the people who were there to see it are liars, and by itself each piece of evidence isn't undeniable proof. But if you build a case based on various kinds of evidence, such as testimonial evidence, whistleblowers, videos, photos, physical evidence, documents, etc, the conclusion is obvious.

Edit: added four more to the list, making it 19, fixing dead links.

322

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254

Comments Section

u/DeadTom83 avatar

DeadTom83

•

3y ago

I saw a craft warp across the sky several times. There's no going back for me, there's no more maybe.

46

u/BlackShogun27 avatar

BlackShogun27

•

3y ago

I was fully convinced when I took an intuitional guess that something was "there" in the night sky. My family was going inside after getting home and I stood there in my yard scanning the starry night sky. It was the first time in a while for me to actually give a damn and look up at the cosmos and study it's endless expanse. I always wondered if some of those stars up above were looking down at us. If some of them really weren't stars. I started pointing at different stars across the sky saying "gotcha" and "that one" like 7 times.

When nothing moved I was a lil disappointed but then I put some real effort into finding the false star. My family was all in except me so I had to hurry as to not raise suspicion or get jumped by a lurking drug fiend. I closed my eyes, cleared my foolish thoughts and did a short 360° spin in the front lawn. I suddenly stopped and pointed out into the sparkling void. I opened my eyes and audibly said to the star I landed on, "It's you." And I shit you not, that white "star" zipped away to the east so fast it basically disappeared into the night.

This happened last year and to this day, I believe whatever was piloting that UFO/UAP felt my human presence expose them and freaked out. Either that or I coincidentally spotted a camouflaged UFO repositioning itself. Either answer is honestly unbelievable but I saw what I saw 🙄

30

7sv3n7

•

3y ago

U realize it takes awhile for your eyes to adjust but then u can start seeing satellites move, kinda sounds like that

8

2 more replies

2 more replies

ScoobySprouts

•

2y ago

Right. Me and a close friend saw a series of 7 red lights on the horizon, synchronously maneuver across the entire sky before they bunched up or lined up (from my line of sight), & vanished in the same fashion. It happened within a second, but one by one, poof poof poof poof poof poof poof and they were gone. We were both sober and have 20/20 eyesight. Like you said, "there's no more maybe" after what we saw.

4

u/solarity52 avatar

solarity52

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3y ago

Very well said MK. Just too much evidence over too many years from too many sources for it all to be some variety of misunderstanding. Eliminate 99% and you still have quite a sizable pool of evidence to work with. I'm not a math major but I believe that the law of large numbers might have a role to play here.

52

20 more replies

[deleted]

•

3y ago

this is incredible. Thank you for this work! this helps keep an open mind each time we see something new.

14

megablockman

•

3y ago

This is one of the best posts I've ever seen on reddit

10

u/RandyR29143 avatar

RandyR29143

•

3y ago

Great work. Need to get this out to more people.

9

u/armassusi avatar

armassusi

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3y ago

Yeah I would hope people would stop asking for good, undeniable photos from the public. If it has to pass all those hurdles in addition of being an extremely rare event by itself, there will not be one that satisfies sufficiently and will be accepted by the majority of the doubters, it is an impossible task in such a huge sea of ambiguity. The latest debacle with the Calvin photo that is supported even by a staunch and known skeptic now, former RAF member and an university analysis in addition, pretty much proved it. No photo will suffice on it's own and certainly will not be self evident. You need more than that.

Video would be better, but again, would face some of the same hurdles. Especially if it is not from a respected and rigorous source.

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee
OP

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3y ago

The worst part about this, which I had failed to mention in the above post, is the fact that random members of the public, such as myself, sometimes have such a difficulty with the authenticity/debunks of any particular photos/videos that it now creates a situation in which figuring out what's authentic is nearly impossible unless we give ourselves a very sophisticated education in various areas, whatever is needed in any particular situation. I'm not an optical physicist, video analyst, etc, and as you can see above, the debunks aren't often trustworthy either, so how am I supposed to know what's authentic, generally speaking? The debunkers have significantly overstepped here, casting doubt on all kinds of other debunks.

For all I know, this video is real, and it even has a second shot from another camera. And it's obviously the case, if you'll use the Flir1 "CGI hoax" debunk as a case study, that real videos can be debunked, buried, and forgotten, so how many are out there? They're difficult to find. Photo archives at least give you some idea of how many there are because that covers how many only have a photo as evidence, but it depends on how many you find to be legitimate. Video archives are obviously far more difficult to maintain.

And in the background of all of this, you also have hoards of people who keep constantly saying that the only photographic evidence of UFOs consists of blurry dots, gaslighting everyone into believing something that clearly isn't true.

10

ABK_Clan

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3y ago

Very thoughtful write up, very important

7

DrestinBlack

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3y ago

May I "hijack" your Post to entertain a question?

Tl:dr - what's the point of all that we all (believers and skeptics) do if the aliens won't communicate?

Let us just flat out drop the doubt and assume: aliens are visiting us and come to us in flying craft from somewhere outside our solar system. The how and where is unimportant. For this question let's agree to stick to "mainstream" reports and incidents and claims. Let us exclude the more racial claims and stick to:

Aliens fly interstellar spacecraft into our atmosphere, these are craft with crew. The craft are real, physical things. They fly around, in all kinds of ways and have various shapes and sizes, and do so as they will, at their whim. They appear anywhere they feel like it and they leave whenever they choose. They sometimes utilize various forms of stealth and other times they are plainly visible.

In those rare instances where an abduction occurs I am only including those where the abductees were returned unharmed. It's ok to include the phenomena of cattle mutilation and crop circles.

I hope all the above qualifies neatly the kinds of UFOs I'm talking about.

With all that in mind, consider something common to them all: these aliens are not making primary contact. They are not landing on the White House lawn, they are not allowing themselves to be easily photographed or recorded. They are not

communicating with us via radio or "TV" and not responding to any signals we put out or our own attempts to call to or communicate with them.

What I'm really getting at: aliens in flying craft do exist but, even if sometimes visible, they do not seek to communicate with us in any meaningful way. They do not wish to establish contact with us. They visit us, observe and perhaps "investigate" us and then they fly away at their leisure. Agreed?

Hope you are still with me. Hope we agreed on the premise - and I sincerely believe it represents well over 99% of mainstream UFO incidents.

So... here is where I'm ultimately going with all this: Alien UFOs are useless.

Wait, before you just click downvote and dismiss me again, hear me out.

What good is it if we all just agree, Yup, alien visitors are real as are flying saucers. 100% real. No debate. So? So what? What does that change about our existence in any way shape or form?"

See if you can answer that question.

"We'll finally know life exists out there" - ok, so? We already assume it does, how does this change anything other than make the question moot.

"It proves FTL or (insert your favorite ufo tech) works" - So? Unless we're shown how it works what good is it knowing someone else has it and we have no clue how to produce it ourselves.

Like I said, ask that question: what does the proof that aliens in UFOs exist matter if they refuse to contact and communicate with us?

I hope this produces a useful dialog - I'll probably be downvoted but I thought I'd try something new.

If this hijacking is inappropriate just say so and I'll delete.

6
u/braveoldfart777 avatar
braveoldfart777

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3y ago
What does they change about our existence in any way shape or form?"

6 Million people fly every day thinking the air that we fly in is void of anything that might cause harm or danger to Commercial, Military or Private Aircraft.

If UAP are flying around in Earth's Atmosphere and can interfere with ANY aircraft during ANY flight be it electronically or air disturbances, that is a FLIGHT SAFETY issue and needs to be addressed by Congress and the DOD. Anything LESS than that is a Major concern and should not be ignored.

7
DrestinBlack

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3y ago
Not ONCE in the History of FORVER has any UFO collided with ANY aircraft or ship or sub ANYWHERE on the planet or over and under the sea, or in orbit ... or on the moon even. Besides, I'm told they can travel through alternate dimensions and warp in and out of our reality as well as avoid breaking the sound barrier so not even our ears are at threat. And we're told they are capable of out maneuvering and out flying any craft anyone has ever produced in all history.

I'd say we are quite safe from our alien buddies. Now, the deserts of New Mexico were at risk of crashes back in the late 40s but apparently they've got better at avoiding weather balloons it appears lol

5

9 more replies

MrTacobears

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3y ago

I feel like I'll bite on this...

You mention that knowing officially of their existence would change nothing and our history would stay the same. Maybe short term, yeah probably not gonna change much at all. But the simple fact of knowing there are real deal UAPs floating around the planet would definitely change society slowly.

Governments would likely organize publicly to begin to understand/research sightings and interactions, there would be investments across the board because even without direct interaction from the aliens. Humans are pretty decent at figuring stuff out. Visual data and behavior of the craft is a decent starting point that might lead to innovations. UAP don't need to interact with us directly for knowledge transfer to happen.

The biggest change that would happen by an official confirmation is open an entire new field of study. Peeps now even without official proof are trying to seriously study UAP but most efforts seem outlandish, conspiracy based or peddling a hidden agenda. Avi Loeb seems to be my favorite example. Actual researcher with credentials but then you see some articles and some of the statements being made and cringe at the claims being made with no Schmutz to back it up. That's conspiracy not research. Not to discredit everything he does but some of his commentary is fishy...

6

Suspicious-Stay-1623

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3y ago

I think what matters is not so much about if they exist, but more about the coverup issue. I feel like it wouldn't be hidden by governments unless the topic had some life changing aspect to it, or somebody is doing something illegal/nefarious, and if a politician or government worker or entity is lying to me, then that would change who I support.

3

u/expatfreedom avatar
expatfreedom

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3y ago

Great post MK! I have a small semantic issue I'd like to bring up. Do you think it would be useful to have a term like AUAP (anomalous UAP) or UUFO (Unexplained ufo) to mean a "ufo that's likely not made by humans"?

If we're going by that definition for ufo in this post, why do you think that the Calvine ufo is not manmade? In my opinion "proposing a possible prosaic explanation" doesn't mean that something is debunked.

The arrowhead is also definitely not "debunking" because it's not a good suggestion at all.

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4 more replies

drollere

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3y ago

i have to ask first of all if MKULTRA_escapee plans to collect these long posts in a single place of collected opinions, because i find the work very credibly done and highly valuable, and would be sorry to see it all disappear into the slipstream of flare videos and lists of known alien species.

i disagree with the announced premise that UFO can best be described as an "anomalous technological flying object", and i claim this is a hypothesis wholly without physical justification as substantive crash remains and observationally wholly outside any reasonable limits of mass acceleration and all thermodynamic consequences of propulsion. this is anomalous technology, indeed.

you can add to those basic inconsistencies the many ways in which UFO do not behave in a way that can be described as a "technology", for example by spawning smaller UFO or splitting into two UFO (2013 AGUADILLA).

and the recent spate of trinary displays of equal lights in a roughly equilateral triangle formation illustrate some of the observed UFO behavior that appears without a technological function, or doing anything useful for a useful purpose.

in any case, i agree that useful skepticism can be misinterpreted as an attack on the witness, and i think any good faith examination of seven decades of evidence is more than sufficient to support the good faith conclusion that UFO are a real thing.

whether or not UFO are a real thing is a settled question and for that reason is secondary to the issue of UFO bias, which still has not been repudiated publicly by the DoD and evidently still impairs the collection of sighting reports from officer pilots and surveillance.

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[deleted]

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3y ago

The Flir 1 video from ATS...of all people who debunked it, it was Isaackoi. That's a damn shame. He is so highly respected.

3

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

Yea, realizing that showed me nobody is perfect. Some of these debunks need experts in various fields to collaborate and confirm that the debunk is actually real, primarily statisticians because coincidences are so common among these. Nobody can be an expert in everything.

4

[deleted]

•

3y ago

This well thought-out contribution is and remains probably (unfortunately?) the best thing that can be summarized in this sub on the subject. I have often read it, copied it for my own archive and quoted from it in private circles.

Just today (2023-04-12 in Germany 🇩🇪) I come back to it again, I also follow your links and I am again very pleased with the clarity of your thoughts.

It's a pity that this sub is falling apart more and more and that this topic may also become transparent again for a long time and will disappear. The last of the money I spend on this Reddit for appreciation and encouragement goes towards

my little award today for your work on this article.

You are special. It was my great pleasure!

3

2 more replies

Suspicious-Stay-1623

•

3y ago

Thank you for this, really well thought out and organized. I'm going to copy the link for this and start using it to reply to people with unfounded debunk claims

3

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

Probably half of the people will skim it and not understand the argument fully (I do the same sometimes, so I get it), so I have found that it's better to also provide some kind of TL;DR.

For instance, if you see somebody "debunk" a UFO photo by locating a similar man made object and they argue it's close enough, find a few more similar things and ask them why they picked the first one. The easiest way to do this is to use a reverse image search. Sometimes it's finicky, so you have to mess around with different similar images to feed it. I would try first the UFO photo, and if that doesn't work, use the crop tool on the image search. If that doesn't work, reverse image search the similar man made thing or whatever they provided.

3

u/AristarcusRex avatar

AristarcusRex

•

3y ago

Thank you for putting the time in to share your expertise and all these links. Very cool. I agree with you that it is very hard to find something that everyone could agree is valid. Further, your categories are useful tools to aid in discussion.

This evidence issue is problematic not with just UFO's but with other things (global warming for example). People have different standards of evidence. People, many people I think, have motivated reasoning. And, I think we are all, to one degree or another, victims of half a century of ridicule of this subject. The default has come to be 'extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence' and people have internalized that to mean various things, but overall it has shifted the burden of evidence to something that, to my mind, is essentially impossible to match. Live CNN and Fox coverage of a landing on the White House lawn would still find deniers. Your approach to look at things collectively seems, particularly in light of these issues, to be an appropriate one. Indeed, it's hard to think of another area that has this much data (of various sorts) that is still disputed. Great stuff.

17

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

Yep. In other words, the bar has been set almost impossibly high. Perhaps the odds that a UFO will land on the white house lawn is simply not something that

is likely to happen.

I really don't want to use this comparison, but it's the best I have right now. Obviously not all skeptics are like the moon landing deniers. Most of them are certainly not, but once upon a time I went through those websites attempting to debunk some of them because, to me, obviously the moon landing was real. There is simply too much evidence to show it. But I'm a layman in every area that would be required to debunk some of their arguments alleging they faked the videos. They've got countless photographs with red arrows and red circles and some of them do seem to bring up good points. However, I'm not an optical physicist or a photographic analyst, so I just had to shrug my shoulders to some of them.

What the "moon believer" enjoys in this instance is that actual experts spent time and debunked many of the moon hoaxer arguments somewhere eventually, plus they're on the right side of the ridicule machine, so that makes things easier. With UFOs, you don't really have that to the same degree. Of course Bruce Maccabee was an optical physicist, and there are some others, so he could address some of the issues in the more prominent cases, but there is a clear lack of expertise being used in this area generally, so I think there could very easily be a large body of photos, videos, and cases out there that have a very compelling, but ultimately incorrect debunk. So even the stuff that I would personally consider very compellingly debunked may not in fact be, but right now I just have to trust it because I have no other option.

On top of that, because of the sheer amount of ridicule on UFOs, it's obviously the case that some of the admitted hoaxes were actually real. It's definitely more than zero of them. I read in one of Keel's books, or maybe one of his magazine articles where he relays this story about a witness who deliberately went to a police station and told them they have to release a statement that it was a hoax to get people off their back. I have a post with information on false hoax confessions here as well.

So this is a very interesting situation we have here. The ability to figure out what specifically is genuine can be extremely difficult sometimes, so I think some people might find the bird's eye view approach a little easier to deal with.

16

15 more replies

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8

11K upvotes · 684 comments

What's the best photos of ufo/UAP you believe to be the best compelling evidence that we are not alone?

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2

860 upvotes · 179 comments

One of the clearest UFO videos ever recorded

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•

9mo ago

One of the clearest UFO videos ever recorded

r/UFOs - One of the clearest UFO videos ever recorded

5.1K upvotes · 459 comments

Found this random UFO picture, does it depict a real UFO model?

r/UFOs icon

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•

2mo ago

Found this random UFO picture, does it depict a real UFO model?

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Some of the best UFO photos ever captured

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•

3mo ago

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My ufo experience uploaded again due to be taken down

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2d ago

My ufo experience uploaded again due to be taken down

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The fact that we can't seem to get clear pictures of repeated drone incursions, leads credence to the fact that any genuine NHI UFOs encounters would them almost be impossible to photograph, and thus debunking the entire premise that cameras everywhere should equal clear photos of the phenomenon.

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•

3mo ago

The fact that we can't seem to get clear pictures of repeated drone incursions, leads credence to the fact that any genuine NHI UFOs encounters would them almost be impossible to photograph, and thus debunking the entire premise that cameras everywhere should equal clear photos of the phenomenon.

399 upvotes · 114 comments

Alright, let's cut the crap. Who here has actually seen an undeniable UFO?

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r/UFOs

•

2mo ago

Alright, let's cut the crap. Who here has actually seen an undeniable UFO?

664 upvotes · 709 comments

This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UFOs since the 50's

r/UFOs icon

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•

5mo ago

This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UFOs since the 50's

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youtu

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What is the most convincing UFO evidence to date?

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1y ago

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Non believer catches UFO on camera.

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3mo ago

Non believer catches UFO on camera.

r/UFOs - Non believer catches UFO on camera.

275 upvotes · 109 comments

That's what I call a beautiful UFO sighting.

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•

26d ago

That's what I call a beautiful UFO sighting.

r/UFOs - That's what I call a beautiful UFO sighting.

2.2K upvotes · 199 comments

UFO Sighting

r/UFOs icon

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•

1mo ago

UFO Sighting

r/UFOs - UFO Sighting

5

206 upvotes · 49 comments

UFO Researchers Accuse NASA of Hiding Evidence of Alien Life

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

•

3mo ago

UFO Researchers Accuse NASA of Hiding Evidence of Alien Life

r/UFOs - UFO Researchers Accuse NASA of Hiding Evidence of Alien Life

co

619 upvotes · 49 comments

More than 100 Videos of UFOs in NASA broadcasts!

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•

5mo ago

More than 100 Videos of UFOs in NASA broadcasts!

311 upvotes · 28 comments

Prominent Figures in the UFO/UAP World Who Have Gone Quiet - What Are They Up To?

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25d ago

Prominent Figures in the UFO/UAP World Who Have Gone Quiet - What Are They Up To?

128 upvotes · 179 comments

One way how the UFO secret keeps itself

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•

6mo ago

One way how the UFO secret keeps itself

r/UFOs - One way how the UFO secret keeps itself

652 upvotes · 211 comments

There is a vast amount of publicly available information and data from which intelligent, objective, and unbiased individuals can logically conclude that UFOs/UAP do, in fact, represent Non-Human Intelligence (NHI) – and that they are interacting with humanity.

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•

2mo ago

There is a vast amount of publicly available information and data from which intelligent, objective, and unbiased individuals can logically conclude that UFOs/UAP do, in fact, represent Non-Human Intelligence (NHI) – and that they are interacting with humanity.

r/UFOs - There is a vast amount of publicly available information and data from which intelligent, objective, and unbiased individuals can logically conclude that UFOs/UAP do, in fact, represent Non-Human Intelligence (NHI) – and that they are interacting with humanity.

489 upvotes · 70 comments

For Skeptics: You Don't Have to Believe in UFOs to Prepare for Ontological Disruption

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For Skeptics: You Don't Have to Believe in UFOs to Prepare for Ontological Disruption

r/UFOs - For Skeptics: You Don't Have to Believe in UFOs to Prepare for Ontological Disruption

substack

173 upvotes · 87 comments

This whole UFO disclosure is one giant psyop and everyone is falling for it.

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r/UFOs

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1mo ago

This whole UFO disclosure is one giant psyop and everyone is falling for it.

51 comments

Looking for a good Podcast/videos/channel to get more information about UFOs.

r/UFOs icon

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•

9d ago

Looking for a good Podcast/videos/channel to get more information about UFOs.

14 upvotes · 47 comments

Weird UFO shape sighting

r/UFOs icon

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•

3mo ago

Weird UFO shape sighting

r/UFOs - Weird UFO shape sighting

300 upvotes · 32 comments

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27d ago

The Hill UFOs potentially identified in 1950s images, study finds

r/UFOs - The Hill UFOs potentially identified in 1950s images, study finds
thehill

92 upvotes · 7 comments

UFO Sightings Compilation (No Music, Sources in Post)

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6mo ago

UFO Sightings Compilation (No Music, Sources in Post)

r/UFOs - UFO Sightings Compilation (No Music, Sources in Post)

91 upvotes · 11 comments

For generations, UFO enthusiasts have longed for claims of aliens visiting Earth to be seriously investigated by scientists. Now they are getting their wish

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2mo ago

For generations, UFO enthusiasts have longed for claims of aliens visiting Earth to be seriously investigated by scientists. Now they are getting their wish

r/UFOs - For generations, UFO enthusiasts have longed for claims of aliens visiting Earth to be seriously investigated by scientists. Now they are getting their wish

scientificamerican

576 upvotes · 50 comments

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r/UFOs

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What is the subs thought on the Calvine photo and salvatore cezar pais : r/UFOs

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r/UFOs

•

3y ago

Self_Help123

What is the subs thought on the Calvine photo and salvatore cezar pais
I hadn't heard of either of these until recently.

Now they are saying - yes it was a real object, a big diamond object, but it was
ours, experimental tech to 'help' the SR-71... so many questions?

If so how does it fly with no obvious signs of propulsion or energy ? And what
the hell does it do?

And then this Salvatore guy, a look at his patents and work under now Space
Force, if ever there was a candidate for the reverse engineering program it's
this guy...

But based on both of those points, why has it never been bought up by Luis,
Mellon, or any of that crew who seem to know all the black projects and players?

0

31

Comments Section

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

•

3y ago

Most would say that UFOs are used by the government as a cover for their secret
aircraft, but I would say the opposite. There is far more evidence that the US
government uses the concept of "secret aircraft" to explain away UFOs, and maybe
you can add a little bit of attempts to replicate what we see in the sky in
there as well.

As for Calvine, I'm not sure if you're talking about the debunk that compares
the photo to a previous aircraft design, or those two "insiders" who claimed
they found out that it was a secret aircraft. If the former, the photograph
coincidentally could be explained as a rock or small island sticking out of
water because the top and bottom are kind of symmetrical and it has a line down
the middle, the most popular theory so far. It was also debunked because it
looked like a previous hoax, which is expected by chance because so many hoaxes
have existed and they're often based on actual reports (although I think they
have this backwards). The Calvine photograph was also debunked because it
coincidentally looked exactly like an arrowhead, obviously expected by chance
because so many man made things exist. It was debunked as a mountain as well
because there are all kinds of mountains you could try to match it to, and don't
forget a top secret aircraft, also expected by chance because so many real and
theoretical aircraft designs have existed over the years, at least one will
match. One metabunk theory is that it was a star decoration, which looks like
nearly an exact match just as the arrowhead was. Mick West sees a specific
diamond kite while somebody else sees a diamond balloon.

Pick your debunk because there are plenty. The problem is these are all mutually
exclusive. In isolation, they sound convincing, but when you become aware of all
of them, they look very weak, as if people are just picking out whichever
expected coincidence they first noticed. People tend to get anchored to the
first debunk they see.

10
Self_Help123
OP

•

3y ago
I'm talking specifically about this article, which raises way more questions than it answers- <https://www.news.com.au/technology/innovation/military/secret-behind-best-ever-ufo-sighting-revealed/news-story/105a08c1a7caf70f6f41c477a563fd3a>

"Dr Clarke and his team, explained the UFO was believed to have been a "target designation companion" for F-117 Nighthawk stealth bombers."

If true how the hell does it fly?

"Calvine Vehicle may have been a piece of experimental US tech is a patent filed by aerospace engine Salvatore Cezar Pais"

Lol what?

2
u/LudaMusser avatar
LudaMusser

•

3y ago
I take it you aren't aware that the Calvine craft was seen again in the same rough area later in the same month as the photos were taken

This time it was by a woman driving her car. There is a witness statement taken and posted on twitter by Straiph Wilson

You like to use the word debunked alot. The Calvine photo hasn't been debunked. Somebody giving their opinion on a photo doesn't mean it's been debunked when what they're saying doesn't add up

How can it be a reflection or mountain tip when it's seen again not at the same place?

If you read the detailed report it says the U.S admitted it was their's after being pressured.

Was it displaying ET tech, that's the real question

2
u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee

•

3y ago
I was more just making fun of debunkers in the nicest way possible. No worries. It was my wording that was the issue.

5
u/Hoshiimaru avatar
Hoshiimaru

•

3y ago
Its probably just a star decoration and a plane prop hanging from a tree, which is way more likely than a extraterrestrial ship hovering out there. But it doesnt matter, further discussion about the photo is useless, apparently there were more pictures of the object but we only have one.

1

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee

•

3y ago

That argument only works in isolation. First, the likelihood that aliens or their probes would visit this planet could easily be very high. That's what it seems like because we ourselves are planning on sending probes to the nearest stars in the coming decades using light sails that travel at 20 percent light speed.

If that is the case, the argument that each and every single photo or video is a fake because it's "more likely to be a fake" doesn't work anymore. If alien probes were visiting, eventually somebody is going to capture that on film, probably more than a few times.

Then you have to add in the other possibilities. What if UFOs were instead coming from an advanced underground terrestrial civilization, time travelers, people from parallel worlds... There are a lot of possibilities.

3

11 more replies

u/croninsiglos avatar
croninsiglos

•

3y ago

There are a lot of unanswered questions about the Calvine photo.

For Sal Pais we have more info, <https://youtu.be/5E6QyAhTB3o>

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/39012/the-navy-finally-speaks-up-about-its-bizarre-ufo-patent-experiments>

This video and article corroborate each other that Sal never demonstrated his effect in the lab. When you look at the funds allocated, that makes sense too. Now whether or not they proceeded on research without him is another matter, but if so, the dates wouldn't line up for Calvine.

4

[deleted]

•

3y ago

Calvine is fake, a fraud. If you look at the fence posts in the photo they are slanted because the camera is looking downwards (those fence posts are either ridiculously small or the person taking the photograph is standing on something/taller than the posts). You can also see at the top of the image the overhand from a tree. The kids are probably sat on a branch in a tree looking downwards. But there's no background, if you were up a mountain/large hill taking a photo looking downwards you would be able to see the ground below, unless it's a fake picture. I read somewhere that boys had found a dressing table type mirror and carried that with them and the photo is of a stone placed in the centre of the mirror.

Either way, that camera is pointing downwards not up at the sky.

-2

Self_Help123
OP

•

3y ago

If that's true why would random MoD guy try to cover up a hoax with a supposed diamond shaped 'accompanying target vehicle'

Why would a supersonic stealth fighter need a accompanying target vehicle, how would it keep up, and how does it fly if it looks like a diamond?

2

[deleted]

•

3y ago

Ok first of all, look at the photo.

Do you see the fence posts at the bottom and the over hanging tree branches at the top ? That's all you need to see. The photo was very obviously taken from a branch in the tree OR those mystical hikers/hotel workers (which one is it) are giants OR we build extremely small fences in the UK. The photo is therefore pointing downwards, where were these people on top of Ben Nevis ? Please explain how you can point a camera downwards and capture a huge swathe of sky whilst also capturing the over hanging branches of a tree.

That's a barbed wire fence so it's at least 36 inches high probably more like 48inches to stop the sheep from escaping.

Again, for someone to capture the fence at that angle the camera wasnt pointing at the sky.

The rest is just nonsense.

Where are the other 5 photos ? Why is the whole thing white washed to fk ? Why are certain objects sharper than others in the same area ?

Oh and I'm pretty sure the 'experts' identified the plane as a harrier even though records state there were none anywhere near.....it also looks nothing like a harrier and more like a hunter in its silhouette (you can't see any markings in the photo either way)

Photography lecturer Andrew Robinson, who produced hi-resolution images of the print in Sheffield Hallam University's photo laboratories, says the image does superficially look like a reflection of a flat object sticking up from a body of water.

I'll leave you to pretend it's a UFO.

1

[deleted]

•

3y ago

[deleted]

•

3y ago

Well, the "triangle craft" is real. In fact we have been using negative-mass in spacecraft for a while, likely in aircrafts too. There are a bunch of ways to generate an anti-grav effect, from use of asymmetrically charged capacitors to superconducting toroidal coils, although cavity-resonance is the easiest manufacture. In fact, surface plasmonics for negative mass application through piezoelectric resonator will likely have an official confirmation here soon, if it hasn't already.

I'm pretty sure we got a tic-tac (cylinder) and a metal sphere as well, the tic-tac allows for counteraction of inertial forces from acceleration, while the sphere uses asymmetric levels of repulsion for movement (the mechanism of which is temperature). I know the military has tech matching physical descriptions of UFOs, and we have some interesting negative-mass tech, but I do still 100% believe there are also ET spheres and tic tacs, cubes and discs.

-2

u/girthquake1000 avatar
girthquake1000

•

3y ago

Got any links? This sounds like cool stuff

1

[deleted]

•

3y ago

<https://journals.aps.org/prb/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevB.97.195453>

<https://journals.aps.org/prresearch/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevResearch.4.043207>

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-023-36618-6#ref-CR13>

Added some links for physics.

0

Particular-Ad-4772

•

3y ago

We know Calvine is a top secret aircraft. The reason being is that the British mod confiscated the original photo from a newspaper, (a citizen had submitted it) and classified it for national security reasons for like 30 years or more

If a true ufo land in my yard and I take a photo , no matter how good of quality, the government has no right to seize this photo . There's hundreds of ufo photos all over the net . The government can't just take it , m they have to have a legal basis for doing so . And I can be contest it in a court of law .

If a top secret black project aircraft lands in my yard and I take a photo , the government has the legal right to sieze it for national security interests . And classified it as long they deem necessary.

I assure you the man who released the pic (if it's legit) got mod permission before doing so .

The government's behavior tells u everything you need to know .

1

toxictoy

•

3y ago

Except that there is lots of evidence of the government confiscating evidence in the last 70 years. Here is an exhaustive list where we know it happened. Also coverup is a fact of reality that cannot at this point be disputed. Even the fact that www.theblackvault.com contains hundreds of thousands of FOIA documents related to UAP/UFO terms, though no one smoking gun doc exists, shows that there is something being covered up not "nothing".

2

Specific_Past2703

•

3y ago

Sal has said his patents are not meant for us commoners, implying theyre part of a misinfo/disinfo strategy for foreign adversaries or something the navy wants out there for some reason.

1
Self_Help123
OP

•
3y ago
Implying... what? How do you get that?

1
Specific_Past2703

•
3y ago
The man himself said something like that in an interview, I assume it was TOE, here is a link to one of those interviews.

<https://player.fm/series/theories-of-everything-with-curt-jaimungal/salvatore-pais-on-quantum-gravity-ufo-patents-pais-effect-and-the-superforce-part-1-of-2>

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Calvine UFO: Could It Be a Rock and a Reflection?
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•

5mo ago

Calvine UF0: Could It Be a Rock and a Reflection?

r/UF0s - Calvin UF0: Could It Be a Rock and a Reflection?

27 comments

So this is crazy... What is it?

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So this is crazy... What is it?

r/UF0s - So this is crazy... What is it?

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5mo ago

Now do the real thing

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Visualizing Caison Best's UAP Experience

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650 upvotes · 96 comments

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3mo ago

anyone know what this was?

r/UF0s - anyone know what this was?

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6mo ago

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289 upvotes · 118 comments

Truer words have never been spoken...

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r/UF0s

•

8mo ago

Truer words have never been spoken...

r/UF0s - Truer words have never been spoken...

445 upvotes · 127 comments

What I saw looked like this

r/UF0s icon

r/UF0s

•

8mo ago

What I saw looked like this

r/UF0s - What I saw looked like this

243 upvotes · 55 comments

What is this?

r/UF0s icon

r/UF0s

•

16d ago

What is this?

r/UF0s - What is this?

117 upvotes · 84 comments

What is this?

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•

6d ago

What is this?

r/UF0s - What is this?

2

80 upvotes · 67 comments

Saw this video on my Facebook reels, was curious if anyone here has ever seen it before and what they think.

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•

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Sighting

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r/UF0s - Sighting

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What is this?

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What is this?

r/UF0s - What is this?

74 upvotes · 56 comments

anyone know what this is?

r/UF0s icon

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anyone know what this is?

r/UF0s - anyone know what this is?

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What narratives are being pushed?

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What narratives are being pushed?

27 comments

Has anybody seen something similar in the past?

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Has anybody seen something similar in the past?

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Anybody know what this is?
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6mo ago
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270 upvotes · 76 comments
I Saw Something That Made Me A Believer
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4mo ago
I Saw Something That Made Me A Believer
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2

271 upvotes · 55 comments
Had to re install reddit to share this with you all
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Had to re install reddit to share this with you all
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Cant figure out what is it?
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2

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The idea that the government pushes the concept of UFOs/aliens as a cover for their secret aircraft seems to be almost entirely a myth when you actually look at the evidence for and against it. : r/aliens

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•
3y ago
MKULTRA_Escap

The idea that the government pushes the concept of UFOs/aliens as a cover for their secret aircraft seems to be almost entirely a myth when you actually look at the evidence for and against it.

Overview:

I've seen a lot of claims out there stating that the government pushes the ideas of UFOs and aliens as a cover for their secret aircraft, but when actually trying to locate evidence of this, there is hardly anything there at all to actually support it. In fact, there is overwhelming proof of the opposite. They have officially pushed the "no evidence of aliens" line for many, many decades, and have released specific information to the public multiple times that seems to deliberately imply UFOs are just their secret aircraft, which is a bizarre thing to do if the goal is to make you think they're aliens. And even in the case of Richard Doty, what he actually pushed were hoaxes and wildly inaccurate, nonsense claims about aliens that the general public will find very difficult to believe anyway, making the subject look disreputable. When the government is involved in films involving UFOs/aliens, they offer personnel and equipment to be used in the film in exchange for removal of accurate information from the script. This has nothing to do with encouraging belief in UFOs or aliens since the movies are going to be made by movie producers regardless, so they might as well twist it to their benefit.

This common saying that "the government uses aliens as cover for their secret aircraft" only further perpetuates the disbelief in such things because it's portrayed as a propaganda campaign, so this myth could very well be part of a propaganda campaign itself. After all, it originated from at least two admitted disinformation agents.

Sean Kirkpatrick's latest statements:

The report demonstrates that many of the circulating allegations described above derive from inadvertent or unauthorized disclosures of legitimate U.S. programs or related R&D that have nothing to do with extraterrestrial issues or technology.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20240119160601/https://www.scientificamerican.com/>

article/heres-what-i-learned-as-the-u-s-governments-ufo-hunter/

"What's more likely?" asked Kirkpatrick. "The fact that there is a state-of-the-art technology that's being commercialized down in Florida that you didn't know about, or we have extraterrestrials?" he said.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2024/01/26/opinions/ufos-actual-truth-bergen-german/index.html?ref=upstract.com>

Kirkpatrick: Well, what I would say is that the government spends a lot of time and effort developing advanced technology for a variety of reasons. Some of this is just people having observed things or seen things or got access to things that they shouldn't have—that they don't understand. And just because they don't understand it, they seem to leap to "it must be extraterrestrial," as opposed to, well, it could just be maybe the United States has an edge. So I would take some comfort in that. <https://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode/the-governments-former-ufo-hunter-has-a-lot-to-say/>

How does that translate to "they're using UFOs as a cover for secret projects?" This is the exact opposite, claiming that there is nothing to UFOs, and it's all secret projects.

Richard Doty:

What a person will typically cite when making this "aliens as cover for aircraft" claim is Richard Doty and the Mark Pilkington film/book *Mirage* men. Doty is a person who openly admitted that he was a disinformation agent sometime after researcher Robert Hastings outed him in the late 80s. This automatically casts significant doubt upon Doty's motives and what he says even today, or at least it should. The best disinformation is a mix between reality and fiction and putting attention on one thing while downplaying another, and it's impossible to tell reality from fiction in much of what Doty says. One of Doty's jobs was to give Paul Bennewitz really crazy "information" about aliens to throw him off. Doty promoted a bunch of fake documents and bizarre hoaxes to others in the UFO community that would make most average Americans recoil at the subject, not get interested in it. I highly recommend this article by Robert Hastings on the real story behind Doty and Paul Bennewitz:

<https://www.ufohastings.com/articles/ufos-filmed-hovering-over-us-air-force-nuclear-weapons-storage-area>

Pilkington cites another anonymous officer from the RAF equivalent to the USAF's AFOSI, basically another Richard Doty, who claimed part of his job was generating UFO reports. That's probably true, but it was likely just to make the subject look disreputable, not credible. Another piece of evidence for the government pushing the alien idea that Pilkington cites, aside from Doty and his RAF equivalent, is an April 1952 *LIFE* magazine article (rehosted in full here) that treats the UFO subject seriously, quoting from high level Air Force officials. Most of the article was written by Life Magazine, however, which treated the extraterrestrial hypothesis seriously as a very real possibility. Edward Ruppelt wrote this regarding that 1952 article on why it was even written in the first place:

I knew that the Air Force had unofficially inspired the *LIFE* article. The "maybe they're interplanetary" with the "maybe" bordering on "they are" was the personal opinion of several very high-ranking officers in the Pentagon -- so high that their personal opinion was almost policy. I knew the men and I knew that one of them, a general, had passed his opinions on to Bob Ginna. -The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects, 1956, pp. 177-178.

So there is a lot of nuance here. It's not as simple as "the government pushes the idea of aliens." The government has been split from the very beginning on how much information to give to the public about UFOs. Keep in mind that this 1952 article was published several months prior to the major 1952 Washington DC UFO flap, which clearly made things very real for the government, and about 9 months prior to the Robertson Panel Report in which the CIA recommended to the

intelligence community that UFOs needed to be downplayed and explained away. They got a little better at controlling what their active duty officers release to the public, apparently.

How government involvement with movie producers really works:

Another cited piece of evidence for this concept of the government promoting aliens is their involvement in UFO or alien-themed movies, but this falls apart as well. There are three things going on here:

Movie producers often seek government assistance in making films, often purely for economic reasons. The government is not going to do this for nothing, so they lend out their personnel and equipment (tanks, helicopters, etc) in exchange for government rights to edit the script, either to cast the government in a positive light or to remove references to things they don't want widely known by the general public. You can read more about this [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#). As an example relevant to UFOs, the producers of the movie Independence Day sought such assistance, but the cooperation deal eventually fell through because the producers disagreed with removing references to Roswell and Area 51 from the script due to the fact that they were central to the plot. Researcher Robbie Graham has an excellent lecture on this entitled UFOs, Hyperreality, and the Disclosure Myth: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8N-SImMAPLo>

People in government who are not allowed to talk about things publicly are told specifically that the only way they will be allowed to tell the truth is in a fictional context, which may include books or otherwise. This will lead to a blurring of reality and fiction, making it difficult for the public to tell the difference, and also casting doubt upon real reports as being inspired by fiction. Richard Thieme has a lecture on this entitled The Only Way to Tell the Truth is in Fiction- the Dynamics of life in the National Security State: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdsJulQdUcg>

Movie producers often base their movies on real events and seek consulting advice from specific people from the government (often retired) to make the movie more accurate, so there is both official government cooperation in some films as well as unofficial in others. For example, J. Allen Hynek served as an advisor for the Steven Spielberg film Close Encounters of The Third Kind and even made a brief appearance in the film.

J. Allen Hynek, who worked with the United States Air Force on Project Blue Book, was hired as a scientific consultant. Hynek felt that "even though the film is fiction, it's based for the most part on the known facts of the UFO mystery, and it certainly catches the flavor of the phenomenon. Spielberg was under enormous pressure to make another blockbuster after Jaws, but he decided to make a UFO film. He put his career on the line." [14] USAF and NASA declined to cooperate on the film. [3] In fact, NASA reportedly sent a twenty-page letter to Spielberg, telling him that releasing the film was dangerous. [24] In an interview, he said: "I really found my faith when I heard that the Government was opposed to the film. If NASA took the time to write me a 20-page letter, then I knew there must be something happening." [25] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Close_Encounters_of_the_Third_Kind

Cargo Cult:

An obvious consequence of alien visitation is the desire to replicate some aspect of the unknown aerial vehicles as best as we can, or at least provide a theoretical design or concept for how we think the technology might work. This is a no-brainer. But a somewhat common interpretation of this is the idea that the government flew their ultra secret aircraft some years before we found out about them, resulting in UFO sightings. A theoretical design is used by some as evidence of an earlier real secret aircraft. However, UFOs, and even flying saucers, predate the modern UFO phenomenon by a mile.

The most recent example of this is probably the "Navy patents" that were

released relatively recently. The immediate question that needs to be asked is if these patents actually contained accurate technical information about highly secretive experimental aircraft, why were they released in the first place? This is not common practice with classified aircraft. Since they contain a triangular shaped futuristic aircraft, and a "gravitational wave generator" that looks like a tic tac, this has been used by some to suggest that the government is responsible for sightings of such objects.

The Avrocar and other disk-shaped designs is another good example. When the Avrocar was finally built and tested in the late 50s, it turned out to be little more than a saucer-shaped hovercraft, but the concept had been promoted since the early 50s, leading to many people assuming the strange disk-shaped aircraft being seen were made in the US. Here is an early 50s a 1959 television program created by the United States Army Signal Corps Army Pictorial Service in which they state future aircraft will be of the saucer design:

https://youtu.be/x_959UBYw-o?t=1470

Here are a few examples of New York Times reports from 1953 that state that Canada plans to create flying saucers that can go 1,500 mph (the US eventually took over the project):

FLYING SAUCER?; Canada Is Working on a Disk Fighter That Would Go 1,500 Miles Per Hour <https://www.nytimes.com/1953/10/11/archives/flying-saucer-canada-is-working-on-a-disk-fighter-that-would-go.html>

CANADA PLANT SEEKS FLYING SAUCER ORDER- TORONTO, Oct. 1 -- A closely guarded corner of the A. V. Roe \$50,000,000 aircraft plant at nearby Malton houses Canada's hottest aviation secret -- Project Y. There an expanding team of researchers is developing what they hope will be the West's first flying saucer. <https://www.nytimes.com/1953/10/02/archives/canada-plant-seeks-flying-saucer-order.html>

Also see the 1955 Bluebook 14 press release that contained three highly misleading statements, including that they were working on building saucer-shaped aircraft: <https://imgur.com/a/82GLY6r>

Motivation to downplay aliens:

Everyone knows about the 1938 War of the Worlds broadcast, which caused hysteria from a fictional alien invasion, but historians today now believe the negative effects of it were exaggerated, basically as a conspiracy by newspapers to discredit radio. But in the 40s and 50s, this would have been seen as one reason to keep the knowledge of a higher intelligence from the wider general public.

The Brookings Institution Report as reported by The New York Times, Thursday, December 15, 1960:

Mankind is warned to Prepare for Discovery of Life in Space - Brookings Institution Report Says Earth's Civilization Might Topple if faced by a Race of Superior Beings

Washington. Dec 14 (UPI) -- Discovery of life on other worlds could cause the earth's civilization to collapse, a Federal report said today.

This warning was contained in a research report given to the National Aeronautical and Space Administration with the recommendation that the world prepare itself mentally for the eventuality.

The report, prepared by the Brookings Institution, said "while the discovery of intelligent life in other parts of the universe is not likely in the immediate future, it could nevertheless, happen at any time." Discovery of Intelligent beings on other planets could lead to an all-out effort by earth to contact them, or it could lead to sweeping changes or even the downfall of civilization, the report said.

Even on earth, it added, "societies sure of their own place have disintegrated when confronted by a superior society, and others have survived even though changed."

What the government actually does when you spot their secret aircraft:

Here, published in 1997, the CIA admits the government downplayed sightings of secret aircraft as temperature inversions and ice crystals, not alien spaceships, in order to allay public fears, from ~1955 through the 60s. The idea is to make you believe no object was even there at all:

Rather than acknowledging the existence of the top-secret [U-2 and SR-71] flights or saying nothing about them publicly, the Air Force decided to put out false cover stories, the C.I.A. study says. For instance, unusual observations that were actually spy flights were attributed to atmospheric phenomena like ice crystals and temperature inversions.

'Over half of all U.F.O. reports from the late 1950's through the 1960's were accounted for by manned reconnaissance flights' over the United States, the C.I.A. study says. 'This led the Air Force to make misleading and deceptive statements to the public in order to allay public fears and to protect an extraordinarily sensitive national security project.'
<https://web.archive.org/web/20110216125834/https://www.nytimes.com/1997/08/03/us/cia-admits-government-lied-about-ufo-sightings.html>

They reiterated this again in a misleading 2014 tweet on the CIA twitter account. "Remember reports of unusual activity in the skies in the '50s? That was us." <https://twitter.com/CIA/status/484429844777037824> The aircraft being referred to were the U2 and SR71, from 1955 through the 60s, which obviously cannot account for the UFOs seen from WW2 until 1955, let alone historical sightings, and that's assuming it's true that "half" of all sightings were those aircraft.

This article details the various methods the government used to cover up actual crashes of their secret aircraft. Nowhere does it state they claim it was a crash of an alien spacecraft. They used a lot of obfuscation methods, but one is to convince people that it was a less classified aircraft that crashed:
<https://www.airforcemag.com/article/0701crash/>

Ruppelt and Hynek admit it:

Testimony from J. Allen Hynek stating that the goal of Bluebook was to prevent the public from getting excited and downplay UFOs (in other words, not to encourage ideas of alien spaceships):

But for cases that were very difficult to explain, do everything you can to keep the media away from it. Bluebook had a job to do, rightly or wrongly, to keep the public from getting excited: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pyDVR2B14dw>

This was corroborated by Bluebook Director Edward Ruppelt in his 1956 book, chapter 5, page 62:

...It was the typical negative approach. I know that the negative approach is typical of the way that material is handed out by the Air Force because I was continually being told to "tell them about the sighting reports we've solved—don't mention the unknowns." I was never ordered to tell this, but it was a strong suggestion and in the military when higher headquarters suggests, you do.

The blurriness of the line between official and unofficial:

All things considered, there isn't much difference today in government behavior than what we have seen since the 50s. People in government/military have always come out on their own and blown the whistle on UFOs over the past 70 years,

which numbers in the hundreds by now. Of course this would happen because coverups leak, especially something this big. When somebody blows the whistle, this is not an official statement.

For a very long time, elected officials have been attempting to pry information out of the government about UFOs, including many Presidents. This situation is very similar to what happened during the mid-70s Church Committee Hearings, and relatively recently, the late 90s, early 2000s when elected officials were attempting to get information out of the NSA for purposes of oversight. There is nothing inherently suspicious about elected officials who are not read into highly classified programs attempting to write legislation or otherwise pressure certain agencies for access to classified information if they feel they have a need to know that information. The best way to think about this is to say that the inner circle has all of the goods, and a much larger outer circle in government is attempting to get that information.

The only difference today is that those elected officials who were attempting to pry information out are making actual progress now, whereas before, they were stonewalled, ridiculed, etc. The amount of officials who now have access to that information is much larger today, but that is only a difference in degree. I think it just got so big and we have so many new sensors now, it's spilling out too quickly and compartmentalization isn't really as effective as it used to be.

TL;DR: There are far too many arrows pointing solidly in the opposite direction. The government has *officially been routinely discouraging the idea that sightings of strange flying objects are UFOs/aliens, not the other way around. The exceptions to this are very rare, and likely never to promote the idea in a credible way that would convince the general public. Discouraging interest as much as possible has been the policy since 1953.

Edit: accuracy and fixed wording

Edit 2: Added Kirkpatrick's latest statements

34

.

7

Comments Section

berkenobi

MOD

•

3y ago

High quality contribution! Nice work and happy new year

1

u/petermobeter avatar

petermobeter

•

3y ago

i sent this thread to my dad cuz he likes UFO stuff

5

AlternativeSupport22

•

3y ago

its likely both at this point, the US MIC has zero point energy craft or something similar with a different system of propulsion. but that clearly indicates reverse engineering in my books as i find it hard to believe we went from first air flight to zp energy crafts, without crashed ET crafts, in 4 or 5 decades.

4

d_pock_chope_bruh

•

3y ago

I'm confused by the effort of this post and not understanding that they aren't mutually exclusive. If aliens ARE real, why is it so hard to believe that we could be working on reverse engineering their technology.

2

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

Sorry, I didn't answer your question as well as I should have. I'll just put it this way. If literal aliens are visiting this planet (this is only one possible hypothesis out of many, but it's the simplest one that we expect would happen anyway and easily explains all of the data we have), the odds are pretty high that they would be too advanced for us to understand much of anything, so progress will be slow. It would be like handing an iphone to a caveman and seeing what he does with it. It will be a very long time before he starts to make real progress in reverse engineering, and it certainly won't be in his lifetime or his great grandchildren's, either.

Since the government has acted somewhat suspiciously with purposefully handing out information that implies UFOs are their technology, I'm less inclined to believe that. Of course their secret aircraft will sometimes be misinterpreted as UFOs, but they likely all use conventional propulsion of one sort or another.

2

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

The TL;DR about covers the overall point. It's a response to a very common claim on the internet that has weirdly gained tons of traction.

2

[deleted]

•

3y ago

It all comes down to saving face. People don't want to admit it's probably aliens because their dumb asses have been sitting around bullying anybody who says there might be life on other worlds. That's why everyone thinks you're weird and then when you're diagnosed with a mental disorder suddenly everyone thinks you're normal and you always have been.

People who are being fucking dumb aren't trying to be. So they push back against being held responsible for it.

They say disclosure would make everyone go crazy but that's all there really is to it. Taking fucking responsibility, and the fact people still won't when it's revealed. They'll act like they always knew and they'll gaslight you if you point out they didn't.

We're as ready for disclosure as we are to pretend everything's fine.

3

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6mo ago

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Nearly half of Americans think government is hiding evidence of UFOs!

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8mo ago

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7mo ago

SERIOUS. Are there any UFOLOGISTS/Whistle blowers you believe more than others?

13 upvotes · 41 comments

I don't think aliens are what we think... and why the government can't disclose

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2mo ago

I don't think aliens are what we think... and why the government can't disclose

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they give him an important message. Has anyone heard of this case?

thehiddenarchive

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A serious theory about UFOs and why they might actually come from Earth

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r/AliensRHere

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19d ago

A serious theory about UFOs and why they might actually come from Earth

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Isn't it weird that Hitler was ultimately responsible for the alien/UFO cover-up?

r.aliens icon

r.aliens

•

1mo ago

Isn't it weird that Hitler was ultimately responsible for the alien/UFO cover-up?

27 comments

Can anyone remember that guy who said he was told the truth about UFOs and how planets are entities that are alive?

r.aliens icon

r.aliens

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4mo ago

Can anyone remember that guy who said he was told the truth about UFOs and how planets are entities that are alive?

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youtu

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r.aliens - On The Origin of UFOs.

1K upvotes · 29 comments

When Astronomers See UFOs

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6mo ago

When Astronomers See UFOs

26 upvotes · 9 comments

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co

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Experiencers report having recurrent dreams sometimes called the "night of lights" in which the nighttime sky is full of UFOs. What if many individuals

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Serious

47 upvotes · 22 comments

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•

4mo ago

Anyone Occasionally Dream About UFOs?

45 upvotes · 34 comments

UFO whistleblower says Trump fully briefed on UAPs

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newsnationnow

84 upvotes · 72 comments

More than 100 Videos of UFOs in NASA broadcasts!

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5mo ago

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196 upvotes · 16 comments

Are there any good UFO and Alien documentaries out there?

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2mo ago

Are there any good UFO and Alien documentaries out there?

27 upvotes · 38 comments

"This is the biggest discovery in human history. It (UFO/UAP Disclosure) has so many beneficial impacts, including clean energy."

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"This is the biggest discovery in human history. It (UFO/UAP Disclosure) has so many beneficial impacts, including clean energy."

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livescience

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Why is UFO/UAP Disclosure Important for Society?

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Opinion: The actual hidden truth about UFOs

Peter Bergen

Opinion by Peter Bergen and Erik German

7 min read

Updated 1:27 PM EST, Fri March 8, 2024

Classified UFO documents released

01:34

Editor's Note: Peter Bergen is CNN's national security analyst, a vice president at New America, a professor of practice at Arizona State University, and the host of the Audible podcast "In the Room with Peter Bergen," also on Apple and Spotify. Erik German is the senior producer of "In the Room." The opinions expressed in this commentary are their own. View more opinion at CNN.

CNN

—
A former Pentagon official — driven, he says, by his duty to the truth — goes public with an explosive allegation. Facing a scrum of TV cameras and members of Congress, this official claims that the US government has been keeping crashed alien spaceships under wraps for decades.

It sounds like a pitch for a Hollywood movie. But last year, Americans saw it happen on the news. The former Pentagon official, David Grusch, had been an Air Force intelligence officer. He told a congressional committee that he'd learned of a decades-long Pentagon program focused on "crash retrieval and reverse engineering" of UFOs from other planets. Grusch also said that remains found at the spacecraft crash sites were "non-human biologics."

That's right. Crashed alien spacecraft and dead extraterrestrials, right there in the Congressional Record. If it wasn't the wildest thing ever broadcasted on C-SPAN, it must've been close. Someone should look into this, right?

It turns out that someone already had. In 2022, the Pentagon tapped a veteran scientist and intelligence officer named Sean Kirkpatrick to set up a new office tasked with investigating UFO sightings by the US military. Named the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office by the US Department of Defense, Kirkpatrick told us his team dug into UFO cases and interviewed US service members who said they had knowledge about encounters with UFOs.

UNITED STATES - JULY 26: David Grusch, former National Reconnaissance Office representative on the Defense Department's Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force, testifies during the House Oversight and Accountability Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs hearing titled "Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena: Implications on National Security, Public Safety, and Government Transparency," in Rayburn Building on Wednesday, July 26, 2023. (Tom Williams/CQ-Roll Call, Inc via Getty Images)

David Grusch, former member of the Defense Department's Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force, testifies during the House Oversight and Accountability Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs hearing on Wednesday, July 26, 2023. Tom Williams/CQ-Roll Call, Inc/Getty Images/File Kirkpatrick recently retired from his job at the Pentagon and spoke with us for the Audible podcast "In the Room." Kirkpatrick and his team investigated every US government UFO sighting going back to Roswell in the 1940s, putting the findings in a report that the Pentagon released publicly on Friday. That report debunks multiple claims of alien visitations to Earth and of any purported cover up of those visits.

In the most extensive media interview he's given, Kirkpatrick laid out a convincing case that the stories swirling for decades about the alleged government cover-up of alien-related UFOs may well have been fueled largely by true believers inside the US government or with close ties to it.

Since the term "flying saucer" was first coined, much of the conspiratorial thinking about UFOs has been spawned by people catching glimpses of highly secret US aircraft and wanting answers. And when the government doesn't provide answers, the public imagination takes over.

WASHINGTON, DC - MAY 17: U.S. Deputy Director of Naval Intelligence Scott Bray

explains a video of an unidentified aerial phenomena, as he testifies before a House Intelligence Committee subcommittee hearing at the U.S. Capitol on May 17, 2022 in Washington, DC. The committee met to investigate Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, commonly referred to as Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs). (Photo by Kevin Dietsch/Getty Images)

US Deputy Director of Naval Intelligence Scott Bray explains a video of an unidentified aerial phenomena, as he testifies before a House Intelligence Committee subcommittee hearing at the US Capitol on May 17, 2022. Kevin Dietsch/Getty Images

But, in fact, Kirkpatrick says, his investigation found that most UFO sightings are of advanced technology that the US government needs to keep secret, of aircraft that rival nations are using to spy on the US or of benign civilian drones and balloons.

"There's about two to five percent of all the (UFO reports that are)... what we would call truly anomalous," says Kirkpatrick. And he thinks explanations for that small percentage will most likely be found right here on Earth.

The Roswell incident

This is how Kirkpatrick and his team explain the Roswell incident, which plays a prominent role in UFO lore. That's because, in 1947, a US military news release stated that a flying saucer had crashed near Roswell Army Air Field in New Mexico.

A day later, the Army retracted the story and said the crashed object was a weather balloon. Newspapers ran the initial saucer headline, followed up with the official debunking, and interest in the case largely died down. Until 1980, that is, when a pair of UFO researchers published a book alleging that alien bodies had been recovered from the Roswell wreckage and that the US government had covered up the evidence.

Kirkpatrick says his office dug deep into the Roswell incident and found that in the late 1940s and early 1950s, there were a lot of things happening near the Roswell Airfield. There was a spy program called Project Mogul, which launched long strings of oddly shaped metallic balloons. They were designed to monitor Soviet nuclear tests and were highly secret.

The U.S. Air Force released this photo June 24 of an aeroshell of a NASA Voyager Mars space probe prior to launch at Walker AFB, New Mexico (formerly Roswell AAF) as part of its report on the so called "Roswell Incident" of 1947. The Air Force reported June 24 that "space aliens" who supposedly crashed in the New Mexico desert 50 years ago were only military dummies and that descriptions of research projects involving low altitude tethered objects such as this may have become part of the incident. The 231-page report is aimed at ending longstanding speculation over the incident and denies that the military had recovered bodies from damaged flying saucers in 1947 and had been covering up the incident ever since.

The US Air Force released this photo on June 24 of an aeroshell of a NASA Voyager Mars space probe prior to launch at Walker AFB, New Mexico (formerly Roswell AAF) as part of its report on the so called "Roswell Incident" of 1947. Reuters

At the same time, the US military was conducting tests with other high-altitude balloons that carried human test dummies rigged with sensors and zipped into body-sized bags for protection against the elements. And there was at least one military plane crash nearby with 11 fatalities.

Echoing earlier government investigations, Kirkpatrick and his team concluded that the crashed Mogul balloons, the recovery operations to retrieve downed test dummies and glimpses of the charred aftermath of that real plane crash likely combined into a single false narrative about a crashed alien spacecraft.

Kirkpatrick also lays out a convincing case that something similar is happening today. He says new technology taking flight now could help explain a lot of the modern era of UFO sightings from the early 2000s on. It's not just secret

government technology, either. Lots of observers get flummoxed when they catch sight of cutting-edge drones and even odd-looking balloons.

An image of an UAP recorded in 2004 by sensors on a aircraft piloted by David Fravor,
Fmr. Commanding Officer, US Navy.

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Opinion: Congress is too credulous on UFOs

"What's more likely?" asked Kirkpatrick. "The fact that there is a state-of-the-art technology that's being commercialized down in Florida that you didn't know about, or we have extraterrestrials?" he said. "And it even makes me scratch my head more when you show them; here's the company in Florida that builds exactly what you've described. And their response is, well, no, no, no, it's gotta be extraterrestrials, and you're covering it up."

Nevertheless, UFOs remain a genuine national security concern mainly because they are flight hazards. As Kirkpatrick put it, "military pilots that are flying at greater than Mach 1; if they run into a balloon with a tether on it, it's going to rip a wing off."

Since 2020, the Pentagon has standardized, de-stigmatized and increased the volume of reporting on UFOs by the US military. Kirkpatrick says that's the reason the closely covered and widely-mocked Chinese spy balloon was spotted in the first place last year. The incident shows that the US government's policy of taking UFOs seriously is actually working.

The true believers

So in the face of the actual evidence, why are people in and around government promoting the unsupported idea of alien invaders being covered up by the US government?

"True believers are not just outside of government; many of them are inside government," Kirkpatrick told us, including the late US Senator Harry Reid, the Nevada Democrat who was Senate Majority leader. Another key player was Reid's longtime friend Robert Bigelow, a Nevada billionaire and the owner of a company called Bigelow Aerospace, both of whom shared a long-running interest in UFOs. Kirkpatrick says, "Senator Harry Reid was a true believer and thought that 'Hey, the government is hiding this from congressional oversight.'"

WASHINGTON - OCTOBER 26: Senate Majority Leader Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) holds a news conference to announce the inclusion of the "public option" in the Senate's version of the health care reform legislation October 26, 2009 in Washington, DC. Reid said that states would be able to opt out of the public option until 2014. (Photo by Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images)

Then-Senate Majority Leader Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) holds a news conference to announce the inclusion of the "public option" in the Senate's version of the health care reform legislation October 26, 2009 in Washington, DC. Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images/File

In 2007, Senator Reid got funding for a US Defense Intelligence Agency program that paid \$22 million to his buddy Bigelow's aerospace company – money the company spent on investigations into paranormal phenomena. Among other investigations, Bigelow's team looked into sightings of UFOs by US military personnel and proposed setting up laboratories to study the purported physical remains of alien spacecraft. (On "60 Minutes" in May 2017, Bigelow said he was "absolutely convinced" that aliens exist and that UFOs have visited Earth.)

Reid told a reporter in Nevada in 2021 that even though this was a secret program to look into UFOs, Bigelow didn't benefit from "some sweetheart deal ... it was put out to bid." Reid also told The New York Times, "I'm not embarrassed or ashamed or sorry I got this thing going...I think it's one of the good things I did in my congressional service."

Yet, Kirkpatrick points out, "none of that actually manifested in any evidence"

of alien spacecraft. But stories about these secret programs spread inside the Pentagon, got embellished and received the occasional boost from service members who'd heard rumors about or caught glimpses of seemingly sci-fi technology or aircraft.

And Kirkpatrick says his investigators ultimately traced this game of top-secret telephone back to fewer than a dozen people.

"It all goes back to the same core set of people," Kirkpatrick said. This is both deeply weird and richly ironic. Because, for decades, UFO true believers have been telling us there's a US government conspiracy to hide evidence of aliens. But – if you believe Kirkpatrick – the more mundane truth is that these stories are being pumped up by a group of UFO true believers in and around government.

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Sadly, for all the UFO lovers out there, that may be the biggest takeaway from Kirkpatrick's report to Congress, which is expected to be published later this month. Plenty of outsiders have long speculated about whether the Pentagon's alien-focused programs were coming up empty and perhaps were suspiciously self-perpetuating.

But now, highly credible people inside the Pentagon – with really high-level security clearances – are finally saying, we looked at every single piece of secret evidence about supposedly alien UFOs. And as far as we can tell, it's humans all the way down.

Although Kirkpatrick concedes that for those who truly believe that there are alien visitations here on Earth, little will convince them otherwise: "There is absolutely nothing that I'm going to do, say, or produce evidentiary that is going to make the true believers convert ... It is a religious belief that transcends critical thinking and rational thought."

This article has been updated with the Pentagon's release of a report on UFOs.

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The Government's Former UFO Hunter Found Something More Concerning Than Aliens

Sean Kirkpatrick looked into the skies and deep into government archives for extraterrestrials. What he found is, to him, more concerning than little green men.

By Dan Vergano & Jeffery DelViscio

A cartoon of an alien in a spacecraft
Prelinger Associates - Footage/Getty Images

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Illustration of a Bohr atom model spinning around the words Science Quickly with various science and medicine related icons around the text

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Dan Vergano: You're listening to Scientific American's Science, Quickly. I'm Dan Vergano.

For the past decade, reports of UFO sightings have filled headlines and news broadcasts, and some of these have come from a surprising place: the Pentagon. Former defense officials have made a number of claims about, and released videos of, strange sightings made by military pilots.

These days, the objects are officially called UAP (unidentified anomalous phenomena).

But regardless of the new branding, Congress has demanded answers on these objects, especially after one former official this summer claimed that he believed that the U.S. possessed "nonhuman" spacecraft and possibly their "dead pilots."

We're talking today to physicist and former intelligence official Sean Kirkpatrick, who, until last December, headed the All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office, the Pentagon office that Congress told to find some answers to all this. He recently published an op-ed in Scientific American called "Here's What I Learned as the U.S. Government's UFO Hunter."

Hi, Sean. Welcome to the podcast.

Sean Kirkpatrick: I'm glad to be here.

Vergano: Can you talk a little bit about your office's search through past records? What'd you find in—what did Congress ask you to look for?

Kirkpatrick: Sure. The Congress really gave us two main missions. There was an operational mission, which is to investigate contemporary sightings with military pilots, operators [and] sensors to understand what's happening in our domain. You can think of that as the current time going forward.

The second mission was a historical mission, which was to look at everything the United States government has done on this topic, going back to 1945, as well as look at whether or not there's been any sort of hidden program by the government that's been kept from Congress on investigating UAP/UFOs or reverse engineering of said things.

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In that second mission, in that historical mission, anybody who had previously signed nondisclosure agreements that protect classified information, they were allowed to come in—if they thought what they had access to was supporting evidence for this investigation—to come in and tell us all about that. And then we would go and investigate what they had to say.

We then had the National Archives; we had all military service archives; we had some of the combatant command archives, the intelligence community archives, NASA.... We would investigate what they would have to say, going back as far back as those archives go, to identify, "Hey, if you came in and named a program, whose program was it? What was it? How did that relate to what the person was describing?" and document all that—which we did, and that was the last report that I signed out when I retired.

So in it, there is a bunch of programs that were named. Those are all classified. We found what all of those programs are and reported those back up to Congress. Congress's concern is that there was a program that they did not have insight into, and that is not the case.

What we've found is that everything that's been named or identified has a legitimate oversight committee. It's been reported out. It may be state-of-the-art capabilities that if somebody were [to] see, [they] didn't understand, but that's the scope of the investigation.

Vergano: It's fair to say that you had access to all the classified world that people have pointed to before as hiding some sort of program like this in the past, and you looked there, and you found no evidence of this story that the government has somehow been sitting on aliens for the last 60-plus years.

Kirkpatrick: That's right. So everything that people have pointed to, we went and investigated and found no evidence to support that. Again, a lot of these things are real R&D or real state-of-the-art programs, not extraterrestrial, but it is completely understandable why someone who did not know that would draw that conclusion.

Vergano: You know, there's been a lot of concern that excessive classification is playing a role here, that people can't even knock down these claims. Is that a fair complaint, or how would you describe that? Like, you can't tell somebody that they didn't see something they're not to see because you're not allowed to talk about it. Has that been a factor here?

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Kirkpatrick: Uh, in some instances, yes, obviously, because if somebody inadvertently got access to something or had unauthorized access to something, you can't go and explain to them everything about it. And so that's where you get into another issue of who actually has access to that information on the Hill. Most people don't understand [that] congressional members don't all get access to everything.

Vergano: We should point out that none of these people who call themselves whistleblowers is or are describing this supposed conspiracy—came to you with

evidence of hidden technology.

Kirkpatrick: Right. Most everyone that came—now, there are some that had firsthand, eyewitness accounts of something, but that's something that turns out to be something else—but for the whistleblowers in the public eye, all of them did not come in.

So I really have two sets of people. I have a group of people who legitimately have something to say and share. We have others that would rather go to public or to the Hill and not come in and share that information, which to me is an immediate red flag on the viability of anything they have to say.

So I had to get a lot of the information that those other people were sharing through second and third parties, because it all comes down to the same group of individuals, you know, recirculating this story, and the story has been around for decades.

Vergano: And it just seems like a tremendous game of telegraph that's been going on for a long time. And it's spun up now from the world of ufology to entertainment, to the Congress and genuine congresspeople, who aren't in the intelligence world that you describe, sort of pounding the table and demanding answers on this. Is that unfair?

Kirkpatrick: No, that's not unfair. We have legitimate concerns by some of the more rational-minded members of Congress, mostly on the Senate side, about the contemporary observations. I have trained military pilots, intelligence sensors that pick up things that we don't identify. Now just because we don't identify it, you shouldn't leap to "it's an extraterrestrial." There are a lot of things that we can't identify, and that's part of the problem.

And that's one of the things that we were trying to get characterized and analyzed. But then I've got others who—they don't have an oversight role, and none of those members ever asked for a briefing. So it's really hard for me to get my head around how a policy maker doesn't ask for that data.

Vergano: I mean, from the outside, it looks like grandstanding congresspeople talking about UFOs and distracting you from the other mission, your main mission, of actually determining what these things are that are affecting our pilots.

Kirkpatrick: That's right. So all of what we've been talking about from the historical whistleblower perspective—important that we need to get it investigated and documented but certainly takes away from the more salient and concerning mission, the operational mission of the here and now.

Vergano: I got to say, as someone who's interviewed a lot of people [in] the Air Force, in the Army [for the] last three decades, it seems kind of insulting and crazy to think that they would hide a technology that would protect soldiers and pilot's lives. I mean, is that an unfair thing to say or—I mean, it just, it's ...

Kirkpatrick: It's not at all, but you're trying to put logic and reason to a conspiracy. Part of the argument is "Oh, well, you know, there's 12 of these that have crashed into the United States."

So a lot of people point out, "Are you telling me that 12 of these vehicles traveled interstellar space, found Earth, got to Earth, and they all crashed in the United States in the last mile?" That's just not rational, right? But to your point, if I'm a military serviceman today, or woman, yeah, I would be very outraged to find that there was this technology that would certainly advance our capabilities and prevent loss of life. There is not.

This is really just a microcosm of a really large problem of distrust of government, distrust of how we conduct operations, investigations, how we govern

and our capacity to do so. And I think some of the publicly expressed sentiment by policy makers that completely lacks any sort of rational thought or common sense just reinforces that concern.

Vergano: You wrote that this is one of the things that led you to retire from your role. Could you talk about that a little more—like, in what way?

Kirkpatrick: So when I started this assignment, I laid out a set of milestones. I kept track of that in a scorecard. I reported that out to Congress. And when I reached my goal, that's when I was done. I would probably still be there if it weren't for this irrationality and this cloud of conspiracy that detracts from the real mission.

I'm both an intelligence officer and a scientist, and so hunting for the unknown is the sweet spot of, really, my career. This would be lots of fun if that's all I had to worry about—but it's not, right?

So most of my time [was] spent trying to figure out how to investigate conspiracy, and you can't prove a negative, right? So now you're faced with laying out as much evidence as you can, but you find that the policy makers have this belief that is completely unfounded and irrational.... I've had senior leaders sit in my office and accuse me of being part of the cover-up for the last 40 years. I'm not that old. So, you know, this is just not rational.

Vergano: Is there anything you'd say to the more general reader, like, who thinks, "Okay, well, people aren't talking about UFOs—the government must know something," I mean, like, who maybe are maybe more amenable to, like, a reasonable argument?

Kirkpatrick: Well, what I would say is that the government spends a lot of time and effort developing advanced technology for a variety of reasons. Some of this is just people having observed things or seen things or got access to things that they shouldn't have—that they don't understand. And just because they don't understand it, they seem to leap to "it must be extraterrestrial," as opposed to, well, it could just be maybe the United States has an edge. So I would take some comfort in that.

We laid out a very clear, scientifically based plan that is being executed to do everything from calibrating our sensors and training our operators on known objects to investigating what state-of-the-art technologies are happening across the world that we may not know about or not recognize. And so my team and I put all that in place, and that's all been executed and analyzed and done in a rational sanction.

What happens to that is where I get frustrated because where that goes beyond that—and "Does it fall on the deaf ears of these policy makers?" You know, I've got better things to do. So I'm hoping that once this report gets delivered, there will be an unclassified version that goes to the public that will help clear up at least some of this.

Vergano: Sean, thanks very much for your time. Really appreciate you speaking with us.

Kirkpatrick: My pleasure. I look forward to doing it again.

Vergano: Science, Quickly is produced by Jeff DelViscio and Tulika Bose.

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For Science, Quickly, I'm Dan Vergano.

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Dan Vergano is senior editor, Washington, D.C., at Scientific American. He has

previously written for Grid News, BuzzFeed News, National Geographic and USA Today. He is chair of the New Horizons committee for the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing and a journalism award judge for both the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

More by Dan Vergano

Jeffery DelViscio is currently chief multimedia editor/executive producer at Scientific American. He is former director of multimedia at STAT, where he oversaw all visual, audio and interactive journalism. Before that he spent more than eight years at the New York Times, where he worked on five different desks across the paper. He holds dual master's degrees in journalism and in Earth and environmental sciences from Columbia University. He has worked onboard oceanographic research vessels and tracked money and politics in science from Washington, D.C. He was a Knight Science Journalism Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2018. His work has won numerous awards, including two News and Documentary Emmy Awards.

More by Jeffery DelViscio

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WATCH: How the CIA Helped Make "Zero Dark Thirty"

WATCH: How the CIA Helped Make "Zero Dark Thirty"; WATCH: How the CIA Helped Make "Zero Dark Thirty"

By

Patrice Taddonio

May 15, 2015

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When Zero Dark Thirty premiered in 2012, the Hollywood film about the hunt for Osama bin Laden became a blockbuster hit.

Behind the scenes, the CIA secretly worked with the filmmakers, and the movie portrayed the agency's controversial "enhanced interrogation techniques" – widely described as torture – as a key to uncovering information that led to the finding and killing of bin Laden.

But in *Secrets, Politics and Torture*, premiering this Tuesday, May 19 on PBS, FRONTLINE reveals the many challenges to that narrative, and the inside story of how it came to be.

The documentary unspools the dueling versions of history laid out by the CIA, which maintains that its now officially-shuttered program was effective in combating terrorism, and the massive Senate torture report released in December 2014, which found that the program was brutal, mismanaged and – most importantly – didn't work.

Watch the dramatic opening sequence of *Secrets, Politics and Torture*:

And that's just the beginning.

Drawing on recently declassified documents and interviews with prominent political leaders and CIA insiders, Tuesday's film goes on to examine how the secret interrogation program began, what it accomplished and the bitter fight in Washington over the public outing of its existence.

"We've found that, faced with 9/11 and the fear of a second attack, everybody from the head of the CIA, to the Justice Department, to the president asked 'Can we do it?' – meaning, can we do it legally – not, 'Should we do it?' says veteran FRONTLINE filmmaker Michael Kirk.

Secrets, Politics and Torture is the latest in Kirk's acclaimed line of documentaries examining counterterrorism programs and government secrecy in the wake of 9/11: He traveled to the infamous Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq to make *The Torture Question* in 2005, and he just won a Peabody Award for *United States of Secrets*, FRONTLINE's 2014 examination of the National Security Agency's mass surveillance program.

"As the debate over how far the U.S. should be willing to go in the fight against terrorism continues, we felt it was important to tell the story of this CIA program, comprehensively, in documentary form," Kirk says. "What we've found raises some very tough questions."

Watch *Secrets, Politics and Torture* Tuesday, May 19 at 10 p.m. EST on PBS (check local listings) and online at pbs.org/frontline.

Terrorism
U.S. Politics
Patrice Taddonio.
Patrice Taddonio
Senior Digital Writer, FRONTLINE

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54m

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A display of missiles in Iran.
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A man in a red shirt leans his forehead against the forehead of an older woman, holding her head in his hands.
Surviving CECOT

11m

Status: Venezuelan

41m

A soldier silhouetted against a landscape of burned trees as the sun sits at the horizon.

2000 Meters to Andriivka

1h 51m

A man is seen in silhouette holding a gun.

Drug War in Ecuador

54m

A German flag is pictured in the hand of a crowd member in front of a photo wall at an AfD rally on the Schlossplatz Oranienburg on May 6, 2024.

The Rise of Germany's New Right

1h 44m

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. holding a mic in front of a presidential campaign rally backdrop.

The Rise of RFK Jr.

1h 54m

Born Poor

1h 24m

Remaking the Middle East: Israel vs. Iran

1h 54m

The Resolute Desk in the Oval Office with President Trump's hands resting on a signed executive order.

Trump's Power & the Rule of Law

1h 24m

Two people carrying firearms tear down a poster of former Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Syria After Assad

54m

Shadi Haroun wears a head lamp in a dark interior while looking behind bars.

Syria's Detainee Files

1h 24m

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Secrets, Politics and Torture

The dramatic story of the fight over the CIA's controversial interrogation methods, widely criticized as torture

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Voices

Washington DC's role behind the scenes in Hollywood goes deeper than you think
On television, we found more than 1,100 titles received Pentagon backing – 900 of them since 2005, from 'Flight 93' to 'Ice Road Truckers' and 'Army Wives'

Matthew Alford

Sunday 03 September 2017 18:33 BST

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Federal agencies in the US have sponsored thousands of hours' worth of entertainment time, including individual episodes of '24'

Federal agencies in the US have sponsored thousands of hours' worth of entertainment time, including individual episodes of '24' (Getty)

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The US government and Hollywood have always been close. Washington DC has long been a source of intriguing plots for filmmakers and LA has been a generous provider of glamour and glitz to the political class.

But just how dependant are these two centres of American influence? Scrutiny of previously hidden documents reveals that the answer is: very.

We can now show that the relationship between US national security and Hollywood is much deeper and more political than anyone has ever acknowledged.

It is a matter of public record that the Pentagon has had an entertainment liaison office since 1948. The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) established a similar position in 1996. Although it was known that they sometimes request script changes in exchange for advice, permission to use locations, and equipment such as aircraft carriers, each appeared to have passive, and largely apolitical roles.

Files we obtained, mainly through the US Freedom of Information Act, show that between 1911 and 2017, more than 800 feature films received support from the US Government's Department of Defence (DoD), a significantly higher figure than previous estimates indicate. These included blockbuster franchises such as Transformers, Iron Man, and The Terminator.

On television, we found over 1,100 titles received Pentagon backing - 900 of them since 2005, from Flight 93 to Ice Road Truckers to Army Wives.

When we include individual episodes for long running shows like 24, Homeland, and NCIS, as well as the influence of other major organisations like the FBI and White House, we can establish unequivocally for the first time that the national security state has supported thousands of hours of entertainment.

For its part, the CIA has assisted in 60 film and television shows since its formation in 1947. This is a much lower figure than the DoD's but its role has nonetheless been significant.

The CIA put considerable effort into dissuading representations of its very existence throughout the 1940s and 1950s. This meant it was entirely absent from cinematic and televisual culture until a fleeting image of a partially obscured plaque in Alfred Hitchcock's North By Northwest in 1959, as historian Simon Willmetts revealed last year.

The CIA soon endured an erosion of public support, while Hollywood cast the agency as villain in paranoid pictures like Three Days of the Condor and The Parallax View in the 1970s and into the 1980s.

Video Player Placeholder

When the CIA established an entertainment liaison office in 1996, it made up for lost time, most emphatically on the Al Pacino film The Recruit and the Osama bin Laden assassination movie Zero Dark Thirty. Leaked private memos published by our colleague Tricia Jenkins in 2016, and other memos published in 2013 by the mainstream media, indicate that each of these productions was heavily influenced by government officials. Both heightened or inflated real-world threats and dampened down government malfeasance.

One of the most surprising alterations, though, we found in an unpublished interview regarding the comedy Meet the Parents. The CIA admitted it had asked that Robert De Niro's character not possess an intimidating array of agency torture manuals.

Nor should we see the clandestine services as simply passive, naive or ineffectual during the counterculture years or its aftermath. They were still able to derail a Marlon Brando picture about the Iran-Contra scandal (in which the US illegally sold arms to Iran) by establishing a front company run by Colonel Oliver North to outbid Brando for the rights, journalist Nicholas Shou recently claimed.

The (CIA) director's cut

The national security state has a profound, sometimes petty, impact on what Hollywood conveys politically. On Hulk, the DoD requested "pretty radical" script alterations, according to script notes we obtained through Freedom of Information. These included disassociating the military from the gruesome laboratories that created "a monster" and changing the codename of the operation to capture the Hulk from "ranch hand" to "angry man". Ranch Hand had been the

name of a real chemical warfare programme during the Vietnam war.

In making the alien movie Contact, the Pentagon "negotiated civilianisation of almost all military parts", according to the database we acquired. It removed a scene in the original script where the military worries that an alien civilisation will destroy Earth with a "doomsday machine", a view dismissed by Jodie Foster's character as "paranoia right out of the Cold War".

Video Player Placeholder

The role of the national security state in shaping screen entertainment has been underestimated and its examination long concentrated in remarkably few hands. The trickle of recent books has pushed back but only fractionally and tentatively. An earlier breakthrough occurred at the turn of the century, when historians identified successful attempts in the 1950s by a senior individual at the Paramount film studio to promote narratives favourable to a CIA contact known only as "Owen".

The new FOI documents give a much better sense of the sheer scale of state activities in the entertainment industry, which we present alongside dozens of fresh cases studies. But we still do not know the specific impact of the government on a substantial portion of films and shows. The American Navy's Marine Corps alone admitted to us that there are 90 boxes of relevant material in its archive. The government has seemed especially careful to avoid writing down details of actual changes made to scripts in the 21st century.

State officials have described Washington DC and Hollywood as being "sprung from the same DNA" and the capital as being "Hollywood for ugly people". That ugly DNA has embedded far and wide. It seems the two cities on opposite sides of the United States are closer than we ever thought.

Matthew Alford is a teaching fellow in propaganda and theory at the University of Bath. This piece originally appeared on The Conversation

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The U.S. military's Hollywood connection

Rebecca Keegan, Los Angeles Times

On a sultry mid-July afternoon on this military base, a few hundred Marines, some with spouses and children in tow, were mustering for a free screening of the movie "Warrior" at a squat cement cinema house on Mainside, the section of the 200-square-mile facility reserved for civilian comforts like the Stars and Strikes bowling alley and Smokey's House of BBQ.

In the film, which won't arrive in theaters until September, a Marine just home from Iraq (played by Englishman Tom Hardy) and his estranged brother, a fighter-turned-teacher (Australian Joel Edgerton), train for a mixed martial arts tournament.

The military's involvement ran deeper, though, than just throwing open the doors to the Bulldog Box Office at Camp Pendleton. The "Warrior" script was vetted by a Marine Corps liaison to the entertainment industry, and more than 200 real Marines appear in uniform in a crowd scene.

Photos: Hollywood and the military

The Department of Defense regularly cooperates with Hollywood on projects large and small, from Lifetime's fictional Army base-set series "Army Wives" and CBS' naval police procedural "NCIS" to Paramount Pictures' warring robots franchise "Transformers" and Sony's Columbia Pictures film "Battle: Los Angeles," about Marines fighting an alien invasion. The military has allowed Universal Pictures to film its upcoming action movie "Battleship" on the battleship Missouri and permitted Navy SEALs to appear in Relativity Media's February thriller "Act of Valor."

Over the decades, the relationship between Hollywood and the military has served the needs of both sides: Filmmakers gain access to equipment, locations, personnel and information that lend their productions authenticity, while the armed forces get some measure of control over how they're depicted.

That's important not just for recruiting but also for guiding the behavior of current troops and appealing to the U.S. taxpayers who foot the bills. Given that less than 1% of the U.S. population is currently serving in the military, entertainment – including movies, TV shows and video games – is key to shaping the public's idea of what it means to be a soldier.

"Hollywood feature films have served as the most significant medium to argue for the military," said Lawrence H. Suid, author of "Guts & Glory: The Making of the American Military Image in Film." "Americans love violence, and war movies provide all that violence without the danger."

But controversy over an upcoming movie about the killing of Osama bin Laden – and how much U.S. officials should assist director Kathryn Bigelow and writer Mark Boal – has shed light on some of the minefields that must be navigated by real-life warriors and the showbiz engine that seeks to portray them.

There are constant tensions over how troops are depicted – the military brass is often uncomfortable with the defiant, cocky heroes that filmmakers, and moviegoers, like to embrace. And rank-and-file troops have complaints from everyday details like the color of a soldier's boots to broader questions about the true character of men and women in uniform. There are debates about how much access is too much and even whether certain films might serve partisan purposes.

On the surface, cooperating with filmmakers on a movie about the Bin Laden mission would appear to be a no-brainer for the Defense Department – after all, the operation was a spectacular victory for U.S. forces.

Bigelow's movie – which was gestating long before May's deadly raid in Pakistan by U.S. Navy SEALs and CIA operatives – is slated for release by Sony in October 2012 and will attempt to chart the decade-long pursuit of the terrorist leader.

The filmmakers haven't locked a script or announced casting or location shooting plans.

Though many details remain to be determined, the story of an anonymous team of highly trained soldiers working successfully off the intelligence of multiple agencies and political administrations would seem to please the military and stand in stark contrast to many of the most iconic pop culture images of soldiering. From George C. Scott's swaggering World War II general in 1970's "Patton" to the counterculture Korean War Army doctors in "MASH" (both the 1970 film and the long-running TV series) to Robert Duvall's unhinged air cavalry commander in 1979's "Apocalypse Now," the most remembered military heroes in movies in the last 30 years are arrogant, independent mavericks.

"There are these enduring stereotypes, Jungian archetypes, and they often show up in uniform in movies and TV shows," said Phil Strub, director of entertainment media at the Defense Department. "One of the things that comes up all the time is ... to be a hero, you have to defy the rules of your organization because they're not good. And you also have to do it as a loner. Going on your own and recklessly prevailing seems to be a very popular way of portraying people and of course totally antithetical to the military ethos. Just about everything we do, the whole notion of teamwork is kind of fundamental."

Bigelow and Boal ran into such objections from the military on their last movie, "The Hurt Locker." The 2008 film, an adrenalized thriller about a renegade Army bomb defuser in Iraq, won the Academy Award for best picture, but the filmmakers' early discussions with the Army broke down over differences about the script, Boal told The Times last year. According to Strub, the DOD never signed a production assistance agreement for "Hurt Locker" or provided any physical support.

"'The Hurt Locker' was problematic for us because it departed from what we thought was the real military ethos," Strub said. "Of course we want to get the ribbon rack correct, of course we want people saluting looking properly. [But] the bottom line for us is how do people feel — how does a serviceman or servicewoman feel about the portrayal? ... That portrayal is more important by far than whether the eagle is facing forward."

In the case of the Bin Laden movie, though, Bigelow and Boal have run into a different, more political set of concerns. Rep. Peter T. King (R-N.Y.), chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security, sent a letter to the CIA and the Department of Defense asking for an investigation into whether the White House has granted filmmakers access to classified information for the project, intelligence that could prove useful to America's enemies.

He also voiced concern about the timing of the movie's release: Coming less than a month before the 2012 presidential election, he suggested, it could influence the race. In a press briefing, White House spokesman Jay Carney dismissed the claim that Bigelow and Boal had received access to confidential information as "ridiculous" and chided the committee, saying it should have "more important topics to discuss than a movie."

Strub said the Defense officials have yet to determine whether they will officially cooperate with Bigelow and Boal's project. But Strub did acknowledge that Bigelow and Boal met with Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence Michael Vickers this summer.

"They have had one or two interviews with one of our senior intelligence officials..." Strub said. "Mr. Vickers was extremely discreet and very careful in his wording. He was speaking entirely of the kinds of things he had spoken about at various other unclassified interviews."

Bigelow and Boal, who declined to be interviewed for this story, issued a statement through Sony that did not address whether they have been privy to confidential information. But they disavowed any political motivations.

"Our upcoming film project ... integrates the collective efforts of three administrations, including those of Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama, as well as the cooperative strategies and implementation by the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency. Indeed, the dangerous work of finding the world's most wanted man was carried out by individuals in the military and intelligence communities who put their lives at risk for the greater good without regard for political affiliation. This was an American triumph, both heroic and nonpartisan, and there is no basis to suggest that our film will represent this enormous victory otherwise."

Bigelow and Boal's film isn't the only Hollywood project related to the Bin Laden operation that's run into resistance in Washington. Less than 48 hours after the White House had announced the news of Bin Laden's death, the Walt Disney Co. filed a patent application seeking the exclusive right to use the term "SEAL Team 6" – the elite special forces unit that led the raid – on movies, TV shows, video games and toys. When the Navy vocally objected, Disney quickly withdrew the request.

Each branch of the armed forces has its own intermediary to the film and television industries, all of them housed in an office building on Wilshire Boulevard in Westwood, while the DOD oversees the largest-scale collaborations from Washington. Some Hollywood heavyweights including "Black Hawk Down" producer Jerry Bruckheimer and "Transformers" director Michael Bay have enjoyed long affiliations with the offices. Strub said the number of productions – including documentaries and even game shows – that receive some form of military assistance annually are too many to quantify and said that producers reimburse the government for out-of-pocket expenses such as dedicated flight hours or servicepersons' time.

While often it's Hollywood that comes knocking on the Pentagon's door seeking help, sometimes the appeals flow the other way.

In June, Michelle Obama beseeched an audience of about 500 producers, writers, actors and directors in Los Angeles to tell more military families' stories in entertainment, part of a larger White House initiative called "Joining Forces" tasked with improving housing, education, health and other programs geared toward those in uniform.

"You have the vehicle to tell stories that just pull people in," the first lady told the audience. "I ... urge you to do what you do best. Be creative. Be funny. Be powerful. Move us, [and] move America to think differently about these issues and about these families, and about our men and women who serve so graciously."

In early 2012, she will appear on an episode of the Nickelodeon show "iCarly" to bring awareness to the effort, a bid to bring public attention to the largely anonymous struggles of military families.

Sometimes, a third party will play matchmaker between Hollywood and the military. For example, National CineMedia, which sells ads in movie theaters, paired the Army and 20th Century Fox for a marketing campaign designed to reach potential recruits. The campaign intercut footage from the Fox superhero movie "X-Men: First Class" with images of real soldiers as a voice-over intoned, "Heroes – ordinary people who discover they can do extraordinary things."

The spots played in cinemas, and exit polls of 17- to 24-year-olds leaving the movie theater found that those who saw the ad were 25% more likely to say they would consider joining the Army than those who didn't, according to U.S. Army Accessions Command Chief Marketing Officer Bruce Jasurda.

"We get asked all the time, 'Why do you market?'" said Jasurda. "We're a nation at war going on 11 years, which is ... the longest period of consistent conflict that the U.S. Army's ever been involved in, that the nation's ever been involved in, longer than any war we've been in, and all-volunteer force at that."

"That's why we market. We want to make sure people understand the full nature of this product. The Army is the ultimate considered purchase. It's a very dangerous way to make a living."

Reaching the right kind of recruits, though, is important, Jasurda said – as is disabusing young people of some inaccurate notions about the military that Hollywood may have imparted.

"Rambo types – people who are very brazen, bold, stick out their chest, braggadocios – they're not the people we're looking for," said Jasurda. "All the physical and mental research we've done shows that those Rambo types are gonna get weeded out pretty quickly and are probably the poorest recruits."

Sgt. Cy Sibounma, a motor transport chief waiting in line for the Camp Pendleton "Warrior" screening who has completed two tours of duty in Afghanistan, said Hollywood movies fail to accurately show the temperament of those in uniform.

"You can get the haircut right, the boots, but you can't emulate a Marine," Sibounma said. "It's the intangible things that movies get wrong, the character, what's inside."

After signing autographs and shaking hands with Marines, Hardy, "Warrior's" star, considered Sibounma's comment and described "five minutes" he served in the Parachute Regiment of the British Army.

"I left 'cause I wasn't tough enough," Hardy said.

Photos: Hollywood and the military

rebecca.keegan@latimes.com

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Close Encounters

of the Third Kind

Theatrical release poster

Directed by Steven Spielberg
Written by Steven Spielberg
Produced by
Julia Phillips
Michael Phillips
Starring
Richard Dreyfuss
Teri Garr
Melinda Dillon
François Truffaut
Cinematography Vilmos Zsigmond
Edited by Michael Kahn
Music by John Williams
Production
companies
Columbia Pictures[1]
EMI Films[1]
Distributed by Columbia Pictures[1]
Release date
November 16, 1977
Running time 135 minutes (Theatrical version)[2]
132 minutes (Special Edition)
137 minutes (Director's Cut)
Country United States
Language English
Budget \$19.4 million[3]
Box office \$306.9 million[4]

Close Encounters of the Third Kind is a 1977 American science fiction drama film written and directed by Steven Spielberg, starring Richard Dreyfuss, Melinda Dillon, Teri Garr, Bob Balaban, Cary Guffey, and François Truffaut. The film depicts the story of Roy Neary, an everyday blue-collar worker in Indiana, whose life changes after an encounter with an unidentified flying object (UFO), and Jillian Guiler, a single mother whose three-year-old son Barry is abducted during the same UFO manifestation.

Close Encounters was a long-cherished project for Spielberg. In late 1973, he developed a deal with Columbia Pictures for a science-fiction film. Though Spielberg received sole credit for the script, he was assisted by Paul Schrader, John Hill, David Giler, Hal Barwood, Matthew Robbins, and Jerry Belson, all of whom contributed to the screenplay in varying degrees[citation needed]. The title is derived from astronomer and ufologist J. Allen Hynek's classification of close encounters with extraterrestrials, in which the third kind denotes human observations of extraterrestrials or "animate beings". Douglas Trumbull served as the visual effects supervisor, while Carlo Rambaldi designed the aliens.

Made on a production budget of US\$19.4 million, *Close Encounters* was released in a limited number of cities on November 16[5] and 23, 1977,[6] and expanded into wide release the following month. It was a critical and financial success, eventually grossing over \$300 million worldwide and becoming the third highest-grossing film of 1977 behind only *Star Wars* and *Smokey and the Bandit*. It received numerous awards and nominations at the 50th Academy Awards, 32nd British Academy Film Awards, the 35th Golden Globe Awards and the 5th Saturn Awards, and has been widely acclaimed by the American Film Institute.

In December 2007, it was deemed "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant" by the United States Library of Congress and selected for preservation in the National Film Registry.[7][8] A Special Edition was released theatrically in 1980. Spielberg agreed to create this edition to add more scenes that they had been unable to include in the original release, with the studio demanding a controversial scene depicting the interior of the extraterrestrial mothership.[9] Spielberg's dissatisfaction with the altered ending scene led to a third version, the Director's Cut on VHS and LaserDisc in 1998 (and later DVD and Blu-ray). It is the longest version, combining Spielberg's favorite elements

from both previous editions but removing the scenes inside the mothership.[10] The film was later remastered in 4K and was then re-released in theaters on September 1, 2017, by Sony Pictures Releasing for its 40th anniversary.[11]

Plot

In 1977, French scientist Claude Lacombe, along with interpreter and cartographer David Laughlin, examine Flight 19—a group of United States Navy aircraft that vanished over the Bermuda Triangle in 1945—now found immaculate and abandoned in the Sonoran Desert. They later learn that the SS Cotopaxi has similarly been found abandoned in the middle of the Gobi Desert. Meanwhile, near Indianapolis, two airplanes narrowly avoid a mid-air collision with an unidentified flying object (UFO).

At a rural home outside Muncie, Indiana, three-year-old Barry Guiler wakes to find his toys operating on their own and the fridge ransacked. He follows a trail outside before his mother, Jillian, catches him. Widespread power outages occur throughout the area, forcing electric utility lineman Roy Neary to investigate. En route, Roy experiences a close encounter with a UFO, and when it flies over his truck, it lightly burns the side of his face with its lights. The UFO takes off with three others in the sky, as Roy and police officers unsuccessfully pursue them by road.

Roy becomes fascinated with the UFOs and obsessed with a subliminal image of a mountainous shape, repeatedly making models of it. His increasingly erratic and eccentric behavior worries his wife Ronnie and their three children, and his friends and neighbors ostracize him. Ronnie eventually leaves with the children after Roy brings dirt, bricks, and other debris into their home to sculpt a large scale replica of the mountain. Jillian also begins compulsively sketching the same mountain. Soon after, she is terrorized in her home by a UFO which descends from the clouds. She fights off aggressive attempts by unseen beings to enter the home, but in the chaos, Barry is abducted.

Lacombe, Laughlin, and a group of United Nations experts continue to investigate increasing UFO activity and strange, related occurrences. Witnesses in Dharamsala, Northern India report that the UFOs make distinctive sounds: a five-tone musical phrase. Scientists broadcast the phrase to outer space, but receive only a seemingly meaningless repeating series of numbers in response. Laughlin eventually recognizes it as a set of geographical coordinates, which point to Devils Tower near Moorcroft, Wyoming.

The US Army evacuates the area around Devils Tower, planting false reports in the media that a train wreck has spilled a toxic nerve gas, while actually preparing a secret landing site for the UFOs. Seeing the mountain on the news, Roy and Jillian recognize it as the one they have been visualizing. Despite the evacuation order, they, along with others who have been experiencing the visions, set out for Devils Tower, but are intercepted by the Army. Lacombe interviews Roy, who is unable to explain his compulsion to reach the mountain beyond seeking answers. While the others are escorted away, Roy and Jillian escape and eventually reach the mountain site just as UFOs appear in the night sky.

The specialists there begin to communicate with the UFOs—which gradually appear by the dozens—by using light and sound on a large electrical billboard. An enormous mothership eventually arrives and seemingly conveys to the researchers a tonal means of communication before landing. A hatch opens, from which various humans and animals are released, having not aged since they were taken, including World War II pilots, Cotopaxi sailors, and Barry, who reunites with Jillian. Seeing Roy, Lacombe suggests preparing him for inclusion in the government's select group of potential visitors to the mothership.

The extraterrestrials finally emerge from the mothership and select Roy to join their travels. As Roy enters the mothership, one of the extraterrestrials pauses for a few moments with the humans. Lacombe uses Curwen hand signs that correspond to the five-note tonal phrase. The extraterrestrial responds in kind,

smiles, and returns to its ship, which takes to the sky.

Cast

A photograph of Richard Dreyfuss

A photograph of Melinda Dillon

A photograph of François Truffaut

(Left to right) Richard Dreyfuss (pictured in 1996), Melinda Dillon (1976), and François Truffaut (1979)

Richard Dreyfuss as Roy Neary, an electrical lineman in Indiana who encounters and forms an obsession with unidentified flying objects. Steve McQueen was Spielberg's first choice. Although McQueen was impressed with the script, he said that he was not right for the role as he was unable to cry on cue. James Caan, Dustin Hoffman, Al Pacino, and Gene Hackman also turned down the part.[12] [13] Robert De Niro was also considered.[14] Jack Nicholson declined because of scheduling conflicts. Spielberg explained that when filming Jaws, "Dreyfuss talked me into casting him. He listened to about 155 days' worth of Close Encounters. He even contributed ideas." [15] Dreyfuss reflected, "I launched myself into a campaign to get the part. I would walk by Steve's office and say stuff like 'Al Pacino has no sense of humor' or 'Jack Nicholson is too crazy'. I eventually convinced him to cast me." [12]

François Truffaut as Claude Lacombe, a French government scientist in charge of UFO-related activities in the United States. The UFO expert Jacques Vallée served as the real-life model for Lacombe.[16] Gérard Depardieu, Philippe Noiret, Jean-Louis Trintignant, and Lino Ventura were considered for the role. Internationally renowned as a film director, this is Truffaut's only acting role in a film he did not direct, and his only role in an English-language film.

During filming, Truffaut used his free time to write the script for The Man Who Loved Women. He also worked on the novel The Actor, which he abandoned.[17]

Teri Garr as Ronnie Neary, Roy's wife. Meryl Streep and Amy Irving also auditioned for the role.[18][19]

Melinda Dillon as Jillian Guiler. Garr wanted to portray Jillian, but was cast as Ronnie. Hal Ashby, who worked with Dillon on Bound for Glory (1976), suggested her for the part to Spielberg. Dillon was cast three days before filming began.[12]

Bob Balaban as David Laughlin, Lacombe's assistant and English-French interpreter

J. Patrick McNamara as Project Leader

Warren Kemmerling as Major "Wild Bill" Walsh

Roberts Blossom as Farmer

Philip Dodds as Jean Claude

Cary Guffey as Barry Guiler, Jillian's son. Spielberg conducted a series of method acting techniques to help Guffey, who was cast when he was three years old.[12]

Lance Henriksen as Robert

Merrill Connally as Team Leader

George DiCenzo as Major Benchley

Gene Dynarski as Ike

Josef Sommer as Larry Butler

Carl Weathers as Military Police

David Abraham Cheulkar as English-Hindi interpreter

Production

Development

The film's inspiration arose in director Steven Spielberg's childhood, when he and his father watched a meteor shower in New Jersey.[12] At age 18, Spielberg completed the full-length science fiction film Firelight. Many scenes from Firelight were incorporated in Close Encounters on a shot-for-shot basis.[20] In 1970, he wrote the short story "Experiences" about a lovers' lane in a Midwestern farming community and the "light show" a group of teenagers see in the night sky.[21] In late 1973, after completing work on The Sugarland Express, Spielberg developed a deal with Columbia Pictures for a science-fiction film. 20th Century Fox had previously turned down the offer.[21] Julia and Michael Phillips signed on as producers.[22]

Spielberg first considered doing a documentary or low-budget feature film about

people who believed in UFOs. He decided "a film that depended on state-of-the-art technology couldn't be made for \$2.5 million." [21] Borrowing a phrase from the ending of *The Thing from Another World*, he retitled the film *Watch the Skies*, rewriting the premise concerning Project Blue Book and pitching the concept to Willard Huyck and Gloria Katz. Katz remembered, "It had flying saucers from outer space landing on Robertson Boulevard [in West Hollywood, California]. I go, 'Steve, that's the worst idea I ever heard.'" [21] Spielberg brought Paul Schrader to write the script in December 1973 with principal photography to begin in late 1974. To discuss the script, Spielberg visited the home where Schrader lived with his brother Leonard. [23] However, Spielberg started work on *Jaws* in 1974, delaying *Watch the Skies*. [21]

With the financial and critical success of *Jaws*, Spielberg was able to negotiate a high degree of creative control from Columbia, including the right to make the film any way he wanted. [3] Schrader submitted his script, which Spielberg called "one of the most embarrassing screenplays ever professionally turned in to a major film studio or director" and "a terribly guilt-ridden story not about UFOs at all". [15] Titled *Kingdom Come*, the script's protagonist was a 45-year-old Air Force officer named Paul Van Owen who worked with Project Blue Book. "[His] job for the government is to ridicule and debunk flying saucers." Schrader continued: "One day he has an encounter. He goes to the government, threatening to blow the lid off to the public. Instead, he and the government spend 15 years trying to make contact." [15]

Spielberg and Schrader experienced creative differences, hiring John Hill to rewrite. [15] At one point, the main character was a police officer. [12] Spielberg "[found] it hard to identify with men in uniform. I wanted to have Mr. Everyday Regular Fella." Spielberg rejected the Schrader/Hill script during post-production on *Jaws*, [15] reflecting that "they wanted to make it like a James Bond adventure". [24]

David Giler performed a rewrite; Hal Barwood and Matthew Robbins, [12] friends of Spielberg, suggested the plot device of a kidnapped child. Spielberg then began to write the script. The song "When You Wish upon a Star" from *Pinocchio* influenced Spielberg's writing style. "I hung my story on the mood the song created, the way it affected me personally." [15] During pre-production, the title was changed from *Kingdom Come* to *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. [3]

J. Allen Hynek, who worked with the United States Air Force on Project Blue Book, was hired as a scientific consultant. Hynek said that "even though the film is fiction, it's based for the most part on the known facts of the UFO mystery, and it certainly catches the flavor of the phenomenon. Spielberg was under enormous pressure to make another blockbuster after *Jaws*, but he decided to make a UFO film. He put his career on the line." [15] USAF and NASA declined to cooperate on the film. [3] NASA reportedly sent a twenty-page letter to Spielberg, telling him that releasing the film was dangerous. [25] In an interview, he said: "I really found my faith when I heard that the Government was opposed to the film. If NASA took the time to write me a 20-page letter, then I knew there must be something happening." [26]

Early in pre-production, Spielberg hired film title designer Dan Perri to design a logotype. Perri, who had previously worked on *The Exorcist* (1973) and *Taxi Driver* (1976), produced a logotype in Handel Gothic typeface, with only a script to work from. Delighted with the result, Spielberg applied the logo to all production stationery and crew shirts. Unusual in filmmaking, Spielberg carried enough influence to maintain creative control over the film's entire branding and asked Perri to design the advertising campaign and title sequence based on his logo. [27]

Perri later designed titles for many other major Hollywood pictures, including *Star Wars* (1977), *Raging Bull* (1980), and *Airplane!* (1980). [28]

Filming

Devils Tower in Wyoming was a filming location.

Principal photography began on May 16, 1976, though an Associated Press report in August 1975 had suggested filming would start in late 1975.[29] Spielberg did not want to do any location shooting because of his negative experience on *Jaws* and wanted to shoot *Close Encounters* entirely on sound stages, but eventually dropped the idea.[30]

Filming took place in Burbank, California; Devils Tower National Monument in Wyoming; two abandoned World War II airship hangars at the former Brookley Air Force Base in Mobile, Alabama; and the Louisville and Nashville Railroad depot in Bay Minette, Alabama. The home where Barry is abducted is located outside the town of Fairhope, Alabama. Roy Neary's home is on Carlisle Drive East in Mobile. The UFOs fly through the former toll booth at the Vincent Thomas Bridge, San Pedro, California. The Sonora Desert sequence was photographed at the Dumont Dunes, California, and the Dharmasala-India exteriors were filmed at the small village of Hal near Khalapur, 35 kilometres (22 mi) outside Mumbai, India.[30] The hangars in Alabama were six times larger than the biggest sound stage in the world.[3][31] Various technical and budgetary problems occurred during filming. Spielberg called the production of *Close Encounters* "twice as bad and twice as expensive [as *Jaws*]".[15]

Roy Neary 1st UFO encounter train crossing location at Padgett Switch Road and Highway 90, Mobile, Alabama

Matters worsened when Columbia Pictures experienced financial difficulties. In his original 1973 pitch to Columbia, Spielberg claimed production would cost \$2.7 million, although he revealed to producer Julia Phillips that he knew the budget would have to be much higher; the final budget came to \$19.4 million.[3] Columbia studio executive John Veich remembered, "If we knew it was going to cost that much, we wouldn't have greenlighted it because we didn't have the money." [3] Spielberg hired Joe Alves, his collaborator on *Jaws*, as production designer.[17] In addition, the 1976 Atlantic hurricane season brought tropical storms to Alabama. A large portion of the sound stage in Alabama was damaged because of a lightning strike.[12] Columbia raised \$7 million from three sources: Time Inc., EMI, and German tax shelters.[32][33]

Cinematographer Vilmos Zsigmond said that, during shooting, Spielberg got more ideas by watching films every night, which in turn extended the production schedule because he was continually adding new scenes.[15] Zsigmond previously turned down the chance to work on *Jaws*. In her 1991 book *You'll Never Eat Lunch in This Town Again*, producer Julia Phillips wrote highly profane remarks about Spielberg, Zsigmond, and Truffaut, because she was fired during post-production due to a cocaine addiction. Phillips blamed it on Spielberg being a perfectionist.[3]

Visual effects

This visual effects miniature model is on display at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum.

Douglas Trumbull was the visual effects supervisor, and Carlo Rambaldi designed the extraterrestrials. Trumbull joked that the visual effects budget of \$3.3 million could have been used to produce an additional film. His work helped lead to advances in motion control photography. The mothership was designed by Ralph McQuarrie and built by Greg Jein. The look of the ship was inspired by an oil refinery Spielberg saw at night in India.[15] Instead of the metallic hardware look of *Star Wars*, the emphasis was on luminescence of the UFOs. One of the UFO models was an oxygen mask with lights attached to it, used because of its irregular shape.

R2-D2 figure on the mothership model

As a subtle in-joke, Dennis Muren (who had just finished working on *Star Wars*) put a small R2-D2 model onto the underside of the mothership and a pea-sized TIE fighter to the end of one of the structures extending from the mothership. Model

makers also included a mailbox, great-white shark, Volkswagen bus, and a small graveyard. The model also included alien figures moving in the windows of the miniature, though were not very visible in the final film. The mothership model is on permanent display steps away from the space shuttle orbiter Discovery in the Smithsonian Institution's Air and Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Annex at Washington Dulles Airport in Chantilly, Virginia.[12][34][35]

Close Encounters was filmed anamorphically and the visual effects sequences were shot on 70 mm film, which has greater resolution than the 35 mm film used for the rest of the production, so that when the miniature effects were combined with full-sized elements through an optical printer, the effects footage would still appear clear and sharp though having lost one generation's worth of visual fidelity. A test reel using computer-generated imagery was created for the UFOs, but Spielberg found it would be too expensive and ineffective because CGI was in its infancy in the mid-1970s.[12]

The small extraterrestrials in the final scenes were played by fifty local six-year-old girls in Mobile, Alabama. That decision was requested by Spielberg because "girls move more gracefully than boys".[12] Puppetry was attempted for the extraterrestrials, but the idea failed. However, Rambaldi successfully used puppetry to depict two of the extraterrestrials, starting with a marionette (for the tall extraterrestrial that is the first emerging from the mothership in what was originally a test shot) and an articulated puppet for the extraterrestrial that communicates via hand signals near the end of the film.[12]

Post-production

Close Encounters is the first collaboration between film editor Michael Kahn and Spielberg. Their working relationship has continued for the rest of Spielberg's films. Spielberg said that no film he has ever made since has been as hard to edit as the last 25 minutes of Close Encounters and that he and Kahn went through thousands of feet of film to find the right shots for the end sequence. When Kahn and Spielberg completed the first cut of the film, Spielberg was dissatisfied because "there wasn't enough wow-ness".[12] Pick-ups were commissioned but cinematographer Vilmos Zsigmond could not participate due to other commitments.[3] John A. Alonzo, László Kovács, and Douglas Slocombe worked on the pick-ups.[3] Lacombe was originally intended to find Flight 19 hidden in the Amazon rainforest, but the idea was changed to the Sonoran Desert. Spielberg also took 7.5 minutes out from the preview.[17]

Music

Main article: Close Encounters of the Third Kind (soundtrack)

{bes' c'' aes' aes ees'2}

Five-note tonal phrase featured in the story

Duration: 13 seconds.0:13

The film score was composed, conducted, and produced by John Williams, who had previously worked on Spielberg's Jaws, and performed by the Hollywood Studio Symphony. Williams included the ominous two note phrase of the Jaws theme delivered by the mothership.[36]

Williams wrote more than 300 examples of the iconic five-tone motif, to be used by scientists to communicate with the visiting spaceship as a mathematical language, before Spielberg chose the one incorporated into the film's signature theme. Williams decided on five notes because "it has to be somewhere between a fragment ... which is four notes, and a song ... which is seven notes, so he decided, mathematically, it would be five notes." [37]

Spielberg called Williams's work "'When You Wish Upon a Star' meets science fiction".[12] Incidentally, Williams briefly included the signature melody into the score at Spielberg's behest, just before Roy Neary turns to board the mothership. The synthesizer playing the five notes is an ARP 2500.[38] Vice President of Engineering at ARP Instruments, Phillip Dodds, was sent to install the unit on the film set and was subsequently cast as Jean Claude, the musician who plays the sequence on the huge synthesizer in an attempt to communicate with the extraterrestrial mothership.[39]

Spielberg initially included Cliff Edwards's original "When You Wish upon a Star" from Pinocchio in the closing credits, but after a Dallas preview where several members of the audience audibly snickered at the inclusion, the song was dropped and replaced with Williams's orchestral version.[40][41] Phrases from "When You Wish Upon a Star" are included in the final sequence in the director's cut and in the special edition of the end titles on the 1998 Collector's Edition of the soundtrack.[42][43]

The score was recorded at Warner Bros. Studios in Burbank, California. Williams was nominated for two Academy Awards in 1978, one for his score to Star Wars and one for his score to Close Encounters.[44] He won for Star Wars, though he later won two Grammy Awards in 1979 for his Close Encounters score (one for Best Original Film Score and one for Best Instrumental Composition for "Theme from Close Encounters").[45]

Themes

Film critic Charlene Engel observed:

Close Encounters suggests that humankind has reached the point where it is ready to enter the community of the cosmos. While it is a computer which makes the final musical conversation with the extraterrestrial guests possible, the characteristics bringing Neary to make his way to Devils Tower have little to do with technical expertise or computer literacy. These are virtues taught in schools that will be evolved in the 21st century.[46]

The film also evokes typical science fiction archetypes and motifs. The film portrays new technologies as a natural and expected outcome of human development and indication of health and growth.[46]

Other critics found a variety of Judeo-Christian analogies. Devils Tower parallels Mount Sinai, the extraterrestrials as God, and Roy Neary as Moses. Cecil B. DeMille's The Ten Commandments is on television at the Neary household. Some found close relations between Elijah and Roy; Elijah was taken into a "chariot of fire", akin to Roy boarding the UFO. Climbing Devils Tower behind the faltering Jillian, Roy exhorts Jillian to keep moving and not to look back, a contrast to Lot's wife, who looked back at Sodom and turned into a pillar of salt.[46] Spielberg explained, "I wanted to make Close Encounters a very accessible story about the everyday individual who has a sighting that overturns his life, and throws it into complete upheaval as he starts to become more and more obsessed with this experience." [31]

Roy's wife Ronnie attempts to hide the sunburn caused by Roy's exposure to the UFOs and wants him to forget his encounter with them. She is embarrassed and bewildered by what has happened to him and desperately wants her ordinary life back. The expression of his lost life is seen when he is sculpting a huge model of Devils Tower in his living room, with his family deserting him.[46] Roy's obsession with an idea implanted by an extraterrestrial intelligence, his construction of the model, and his gradual loss of contact with his wife, mimic the events in the short story "Dulcie and Decorum" (1955) by Damon Knight. [citation needed]

Close Encounters studies the form of "youth spiritual yearning". Barry Guiler, the unfearing child who refers to the UFOs and their paraphernalia as "toys" (although that was unscripted, with the child being drawn to smile by being shown toys offstage), serves as a motif for childlike innocence and openness in the face of the unknown.[46] Spielberg also compared the theme of communication as highlighting that of tolerance: "If we can talk to extraterrestrials in Close Encounters of the Third Kind, why not with the Reds in the Cold War?"[47] Sleeping is the final obstacle to overcome in the ascent of Devils Tower. Roy, Jillian, and a third invitee, Larry Butler, climb the mountain pursued by government helicopters spraying sleeping gas. Larry stops to rest, is gassed, and falls into a deep sleep.[46]

In his interview with Spielberg on Inside the Actors Studio, James Lipton suggested Close Encounters has another, more personal theme for Spielberg: "Your father was a computer engineer; your mother was a concert pianist, and when the spaceship lands, they make music together on the computer", suggesting that Roy Neary's boarding the spaceship represents Spielberg's wish to be reunited with his parents. The director had not consciously intended this aspect. In a 2005 interview, Spielberg stated that he made Close Encounters when he did not have children, and if he were making it today, he would never have had Roy leave his family and board the mothership.[48]

Communication and language issues constitute additional themes as noted by Andrew Johnston in Time Out New York: "Throughout the film, there are many scenes that anticipate themes Spielberg would explore in subsequent projects, but his execution of these ideas here is usually more interesting and subtle. In Amistad, for example, he devotes much time to illustrating the language barrier separating Africans from both their captors and their potential saviors. It's an essential plot point, but it's so belabored that the story gets bogged down. In CE3K, the language problem is illustrated concisely by a quick scene in which an interpreter translates Spanish into English for Laughlin so he can turn around and translate it into French for Lacombe. Since Spielberg doesn't ram the language problem down our throats, the extraterrestrials' solution—using music to communicate with humanity—seems more elegant and natural."[49]

Release and reception

Box office

The film was to be released in mid-1977 but was delayed to November because of the various production problems.[50]

Close Encounters premiered at the Ziegfeld Theatre in New York City on November 16, 1977,[51] and continued there and at the Cinerama Dome in Los Angeles, grossing \$1,077,000. Its national release was December 14, in 270 theaters and grossing \$10,115,000 in one week with a per-screen average of \$37,460.[52] On December 21, 301 more theaters were added. By the end of the second week of national release it had grossed \$24,695,317.[53]

It made a record \$3,026,558 on December 26, 1977,[54] and set a one-week record of \$17,393,654 from December 26 to January 1.[55] The film opened internationally on February 24, 1978, and grossed \$27 million by the end of March from 19 countries.[56] Close Encounters received mostly positive reviews and became a certified box office success, grossing \$116.39 million in the United States and Canada, and \$171.7 million in foreign countries, for \$288 million worldwide.[54]

It was the most successful Columbia Pictures film at that time.[57][31]

Released in conjunction with Close Encounters of the Third Kind was a novelization of the film, credited solely to Steven Spielberg but largely ghostwritten by Leslie Waller. Spielberg later explained to Starlog magazine,

It was very early on when we made the deal with [the publishers] Dell... It included an advance with a promise that I was going to have direct writing input into the book. But post-production on the movie became so impossible that I had to get somebody else to write it. I didn't write the first, second, or third drafts. Those were written, based on my screenplay, by Leslie Waller, a very good writer. When I read his drafts, though, I told the publishers that unless it was cleaned up I wouldn't let my name go out with the book. So I sat down and spent less than a week – I wouldn't say rewriting the novel – but polishing it, and taking a lot of the plot and twisting it back into the direction of the screenplay. All told, there's about 20 percent of me in the book. I wish I could say there was more, but there's not. I cringe when I see my name on the cover, and I usually avoid it at bookstores. Actually, I've never bought a copy.[58]

Critical reception

Jonathan Rosenbaum refers to the film as "the best expression of Spielberg's

benign, dreamy-eyed vision".[59] A.D. Murphy of Variety magazine gave a positive review but wrote that Close Encounters "lacks the warmth and humanity" of George Lucas's Star Wars. Murphy found most of the film slow-paced, but praised the climax.[60] On Sneak Previews, Gene Siskel and Roger Ebert highly recommended the film. Siskel praised the message of not being "afraid of the unknown", said Dreyfuss was "perfectly cast", and described the ending as "a wonderful scene, combining fantasy, adventure and mystery". However, he mentioned that the story got "bogged down" by a subplot in the middle. Ebert said "the last 30 minutes are among the most marvelous things I've ever seen on the screen" and that the film was "like a kid's picture...in its innocence".[61] Pauline Kael similarly called it "a kid's film in the best sense". Kael wrote that,

"Spielberg is the son of an electrical-engineer, sci-fi-addict father and a classical-pianist mother, and in the climax of the film he does justice to both. Under the French scientist's direction, the earthlings are ready with a console, and they greet the great craft with an oboe solo variation on the five-note theme; the craft answers in deep, tuba tones. The dialogue becomes blissfully garrulous. And with light flooding out from the windows of this omniscient airship—it's like New York's skyscrapers all lighted up on a summer night—there is a conversational duet: the music of the spheres. This is one of the peerless moments in movie history—spiritually reassuring, magical, and funny at the same time. Very few movies have ever hit upon this combination of fantasy and amusement—The Wizard of Oz, perhaps, in a plainer, down-home way."[62]

Jean Renoir compared Spielberg's storytelling to Jules Verne and Georges Méliès. [18] Ray Bradbury declared it the greatest science fiction film ever made.[63] David Thomson wrote that "Close Encounters had a flawless wonder, such that it might be the first film ever made" calling it "a tribute to the richness of human imagination" and "as close to a mystical experience as a major film has come, but it's the mysticism of common sense... The movie could have been naive and sentimental—it was inspired by Disney—but Spielberg never relinquishes his practicality and his eye for everyday detail."[64]

Reissues and home media

Versions

Release date	Version	Description	Notes	Runtime
11-16-1977	Original	Theatrical Version		135 minutes
08-03-1980	Special Edition	Adds SS Cotopaxi; and Mothership interior	132 minutes	
05-12-1998	Collector's Edition/Director's Cut	Removes Mothership interior	137 minutes	

On the final cut privilege, Spielberg was dissatisfied with the film. Columbia Pictures was experiencing financial problems, and depending on this film to save their company. He explained, "I wanted to have another six months to finish off this film, and release it in summer 1978. They told me they needed this film out immediately. Anyway, Close Encounters was a huge financial success and I told them I wanted to make my own director's cut. They agreed on the condition that I show the inside of the mothership so they could have something to hang a [reissue marketing] campaign on. I never should have shown the inside of the mothership."[12]

In 1979, Columbia gave Spielberg \$1.5 million to produce what became the Special Edition. Spielberg added seven minutes of new and previously discarded footage, but also deleted or shortened various existing scenes by ten minutes, so that its 132-minute runtime is 3 minutes shorter than the original release.[18] The Special Edition features several new character development scenes, the discovery of the SS Cotopaxi in the Gobi Desert, and a view of the inside of the mothership. Close Encounters of the Third Kind: The Special Edition was released on August 3, 1980,[65] making a further \$15.7 million, accumulating a final \$303.7 million box office gross.[18][54] Roger Ebert "thought the original film was an astonishing achievement, capturing the feeling of awe and wonder we have when considering the likelihood of life beyond the Earth. ... This new version ... is, quite simply, a better film ... Why didn't Spielberg make it this good the first time?"[66]

The 1980 Special Edition was the only version officially available for many years on VHS. It was RCA/Columbia Pictures Home Video's biggest selling title with sales of 60,000 in its first three years of release in the United States. [67] Then, in 1990, The Criterion Collection offered two versions for LaserDisc, one a variant of the original 1977 edition (with subtle edits made by Spielberg which became the syndicated television version), the other the Special Edition (programmed by the viewer using the LaserDisc player's remote features that predate the seamless branching of DVDs). [68] This triple-disc LaserDisc set also includes an interactive Making Close Encounters documentary featuring interviews with Spielberg and other cast and crew involved with the film, and stills and script excerpts. In 1993, the Special Edition was released on VHS and LaserDisc with no further release for 14 years.

Vincent Misiano reviewed Close Encounters: The Special Edition in Ares Magazine #5 and commented that "Artists in other media have always had the luxury of returning to a piece, reworking and refining it. For various reasons, money first among them, this opportunity has rarely been afforded to filmmakers. Steven Spielberg has been given the chance and used it well." [69]

On May 12, 1998, Spielberg recut Close Encounters again for the Director's Cut, released as simply the "Collector's Edition" on VHS. This version is a re-edit of the original 1977 release with some elements of the 1980 Special Edition, but omits the mothership interior scenes as Spielberg said they should have remained a mystery. The director's cut is the longest release of the film at 137 minutes, two minutes longer than the theatrical version and five minutes longer than the Special Edition. [10] A LaserDisc release of the Collector's Edition, on July 14, 1998, includes a new 101-minute documentary, The Making of Close Encounters, which was produced in 1997 and features interviews with Spielberg, the main cast, and notable crew members. Many other alternative versions were made for network and syndicated television, and the Criterion LaserDisc version. Some of these combined all released material from the 1977 and 1980 versions. However, most of these versions were not edited by Spielberg, who regards the Collector's Edition as his definitive version. The Collector's Edition was given a limited release as part of a roadshow featuring select films to celebrate Columbia Pictures's 75th anniversary in 1999. It was the first time this version of the film had been shown theatrically. This was once again released in theaters on September 1, 2017, in tribute to the film's 40th anniversary. [70] It made \$1.8 million in the weekend (\$2.3 million over the four-day Labor Day holiday), pushing its career global gross to over \$306 million worldwide. [71]

Close Encounters was released on DVD on May 29, 2001, in a two-disc Collector's Edition set that contains only the director's cut. [72] This set contains several extra features, including the 1997 documentary, a featurette from 1977, trailers, and deleted scenes that includes the mothership interior from the 1980 Special Edition. A single-disc DVD edition was released on August 27, 2002. [73] In tribute to the film's 30th anniversary, Sony Pictures released it on DVD and Blu-ray in 2007. For the first time, all three versions were packaged together. [74] Then in 2017, in honor of its 40th anniversary, the film was given a 4K restoration of the original camera negative. Following its theatrical re-release of the director's cut, the film was released in 4K and Blu-ray with all three versions given the same 4K treatment. [75]

Accolades

Award Category	Nominee(s)	Result	Ref.
Academy Awards	Best Director	Steven Spielberg	Nominated [76]
	Best Supporting Actress	Melinda Dillon	Nominated [77]
	Best Art Direction	Art Direction: Joe Alves and Dan Lomino, Set Decoration: Phil Abramson	Nominated
	Best Cinematography	Vilmos Zsigmond	Won
	Best Film Editing	Michael Kahn	Nominated
	Best Original Score	John Williams	Nominated
	Best Sound	Robert Knudson, Robert J. Glass, Don MacDougall and Gene Cantamessa	

Nominated
 Best Visual Effects Roy Arbogast, Douglas Trumbull, Matthew Yuricich, Gregory Jein and Richard Yuricich Nominated
 Special Achievement Academy Award (for "Sound Effects Editing") Frank Warner Won
 American Cinema Editors Awards Best Edited Feature Film Michael Kahn Nominated
 British Academy Film Awards Best Film Steven Spielberg Nominated [78]
 Best Direction Nominated
 Best Actor in a Supporting Role François Truffaut Nominated
 Best Screenplay Steven Spielberg Nominated
 Best Cinematography Vilmos Zsigmond Nominated
 Best Editing Michael Kahn Nominated
 Best Original Music John Williams Nominated
 Best Production Design Joe Alves Won
 Best Sound Gene Cantamessa, Robert Knudson, Don MacDougall, Robert Glass, Steve Katz, Frank Warner, Richard Oswald, David Horton, Sam Gemette, Gary Gerlich, Chet Slomka and Neil Burrow Nominated
 David di Donatello Awards Best Foreign Film Steven Spielberg Won
 Directors Guild of America Awards Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Motion Pictures Nominated [79]
 Golden Globe Awards Best Motion Picture - Drama Nominated [80]
 Best Director - Motion Picture Steven Spielberg Nominated
 Best Screenplay - Motion Picture Nominated
 Best Original Score - Motion Picture John Williams Nominated
 Golden Reel Awards Best Sound Editing - Sound Effects Won
 Golden Screen Awards Won
 Grammy Awards Best Pop Instrumental Performance Close Encounters of the Third Kind
 Zubin Mehta conducting the Los Angeles Philharmonic Nominated [81]
 Close Encounters of the Third Kind - John Williams Nominated
 Best Instrumental Composition "Theme from Close Encounters of the Third Kind" - John Williams Won
 Best Album of Original Score Written for a Motion Picture or a Television Special Close Encounters of the Third Kind - John Williams Won
 Hugo Awards Best Dramatic Presentation Steven Spielberg Nominated [82]
 International Film Music Critics Association Awards Best Re-Release of a Previously Existing Score John Williams Won [83]
 Best New Release, Re-Release or Re-Recording of an Existing Score John Williams, Mike Matessino and Jim Titus Nominated [84]
 Japan Academy Film Prize Outstanding Foreign Language Film Nominated
 Korean Association of Film Critics Awards Best Foreign Film Steven Spielberg Won
 National Board of Review Awards Top Ten Films 5th Place [85]
 Special Citation - Outstanding Special Effects Won
 National Film Preservation Board National Film Registry Inducted [86]
 National Society of Film Critics Awards Best Film 3rd Place [87]
 Best Director Steven Spielberg 2nd Place
 New York Film Critics Circle Awards Best Film Runner-up [88]
 Best Director Steven Spielberg Runner-up
 Online Film & Television Association Awards Hall of Fame - Motion Picture Inducted [89]
 Saturn Awards (1977) Best Science Fiction Film Nominated [90]
 Best Director Steven Spielberg Won[a]
 Best Actor Richard Dreyfuss Nominated
 Best Actress Melinda Dillon Nominated
 Best Supporting Actress Teri Garr Nominated
 Best Writing Steven Spielberg Nominated
 Best Make-up Bob Westmoreland, Thomas R. Burman and Carlo Rambaldi Nominated
 Best Music John Williams Won
 Best Special Effects Douglas Trumbull Nominated
 Saturn Awards (2001) Best DVD Classic Film Release Nominated [91]
 Saturn Awards (2007) Best DVD Special Edition Release Nominated [90]
 Turkish Film Critics Association Awards Best Foreign Film 7th Place
 Writers Guild of America Awards Best Drama - Written Directly for the Screen

Steven Spielberg Nominated [92]
American Film Institute Lists
AFI's 100 Years...100 Movies: #64
AFI's 100 Years...100 Thrills: #31
AFI's 100 Years...100 Cheers: #58
Legacy

See also: Night Skies

Observers credited the Close Encounters for launching the reemergence of a large market for science fiction films in the 1980s alongside Star Wars (1977) and Superman (1978).[93][94][95][96][97] In 1985, Spielberg donated \$100,000 to the Planetary Society for Megachannel ExtraTerrestrial Assay.[15]

Shortly after the film's release in late 1977, Spielberg considered either a sequel or prequel, but decided against it. He explained, "The army's knowledge and ensuing cover-up is so subterranean that it would take a creative screen story, perhaps someone else making the picture and giving it the equal time it deserves." [24]

When asked in 1980 to select a single "master image" that summed up his film career, Spielberg chose the shot of Barry opening his living room door to see the blazing orange light from the UFO. "That was beautiful but awful light, just like fire coming through the doorway. [Barry's] very small, and it's a very large door, and there's a lot of promise or danger outside that door." [20] In 2007, Close Encounters was deemed "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant" by the United States Library of Congress and was added to the National Film Registry for preservation.[98] In American Film Institute polls, Close Encounters has been voted the 64th-greatest American film,[99] the 31st-most thrilling,[100] and the 58th-most inspiring.[101] It was also nominated for the top 10 science fiction films in AFI's 10 Top 10[102] and the tenth-anniversary edition of the 100 Movies list.[103] The score by John Williams was nominated for AFI's 100 Years of Film Scores.[104]

In 2011, ABC aired a primetime special, Best in Film: The Greatest Movies of Our Time, that counted down the best films chosen by fans based on results of a poll conducted by ABC and People magazine. Close Encounters of the Third Kind was selected as the #5 Best Sci-Fi Film.[105] The Guardian also selected the film as the 11th best Sci-Fi and fantasy film of all time.[106] In 2024, Close Encounters of the Third Kind was included in Rolling Stone's "The 150 Best Science Fiction Movies of All Time" list at #3.[107]

Many prominent directors have cited Close Encounters as one of their favorites, among them Stanley Kubrick,[108] Edgar Wright,[109] Bong Joon-ho, Spike Lee,[110] Denis Villeneuve,[111] Guillermo del Toro,[112] Christopher Nolan,[113] Greta Gerwig,[114] Andrew Stanton,[115] Patrick Read Johnson and Michael Williams.[116] Stephen King named it one of his ten favorite movies.[117]

See also

List of films featuring extraterrestrials

Notes

Tied with George Lucas for Star Wars.

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first flying saucer. Planning and development have been carried out by a team of
research men at the big A. V. Roe aircraft plant in Malton near here and until
about six months ago their work, known as Project Y. was one of Canada's most
closely guarded secrets. Then stray facts, began to leak out and were fitted
together by aviation reporters. The published stories caused consternation and

regret among both A. V. Roe officials and the Royal Canadian Air Force, which had supplied technical assistance to the project. "It was frightening that our most vital secret got out that easily," said one company executive. The R. C. A. F. spoke of "a breach, of security." Since then everyone has moved to draw the curtain tighter. It is reported, however, that paper work on the revolutionary disk fighter has gone about as far as it can go. What is now needed is money to build a prototype. The estimated initial cost of such a pilot model is at least \$300,000.000. The researchers have blueprinted a system of controls for the Exoscopic type of craft, but they face many tough and expensive hurdles before their "baby" flies. Revolving Engine They must perfect a gas-turbine engine which would revolve at high speed about the pilot. He would control the plane from a plastic bubble in the saucer's center. In addition they must develop an alloy capable of resisting the extreme heat generated by friction as the plane hurtles along at 1,500 miles an hour. (At such a speed it would be theoretically possible, on nonstop flights, to cross North America in less than two hours, fly from New York to Paris in about 21 hours and from San Francisco to Tokyo in 312 hours.) The whirling engine would provide the disk with its basic stability, and this principle has already been proven sound in wind-tunnel trials. Information unconfirmable officially but believed essentially correct indicates that surrounding the engine of the projected craft would be a circular wing which, like the cockpit, would not revolve. Air would be drawn in through intakes on the wing's leading edge. Part of the air would be injected into the engine and the remainder would be funneled through a series of vanes on the wing's flat trailing edge. The pilot could deflect this latter airflow in many directions over a wide arc, allowing the craft to hover or climb faster or pancake! to a landing. The take-off would be from a slingshot tripod with rockets assisting. This would make the craft ideal for use in northern Canada, where distances are vast and landing strips costly and few. Today only a few hand-picked visitors are being permitted to enter the Project Y compound of the \$50,000,000 A. V. Roe plant. Occasionally top-level visitors like Field Marshal Montgomery are admitted. Several weeks ago a group of twenty-five from the United States, headed by Lieut. Gen. Donald L. Putt, chief of the Air Research and Development Command, viewed a forty-foot wooden mock-up of the 1,500-mile-an-hour machine and were reported as "deeply impressed." The A. V. Roe Company is a member of the Hawker-Siddeley aircraft group of Great Britain. It is hoping that either the Canadian Government or Hawker-Siddeley will decide to back the actual construction of the costly pilot model. A third possible source of help is the United States Air Force. SAUCER STORIES Early in 1945 a number of observant persons saw an object high in the sky over Detroit and reported it to the Civil Air Patrol. A few minutes later the commanding officer of an Air Force base in the suburbs jumped into a light bomber and roared up after the motionless object as high as he could go. On landing he learned that he had been after a planet that happened to be visible in broad daylight that day. Flying-1 saucer stories were launched. Once the term flying saucer became popular, there were many crude and many sincere attempts: to send military personnel and other scientific investigators on countless wild-goose chases. Slightly unusual weather phenomena, like ball lightning, gave laymen assurance that round, high-speed aircraft were visiting from outer space and the crew of, one of them, composed of "men eighteen inches tall," was reported found in the wreckage of a flying saucer in the Western desert. Although it knew it was tracking down hoaxes and illusions, the Air Force has made a study of all the saucer stories reported to it and in almost every case has been able to explain the phenomenon, real or unreak. It was generally tricks of the weather and tricks of man. Meanwhile, the Air Force: and the Navy have denied that they are sending anything like flying saucers buzzing around our atmosphere and so far as is known Canada is the first nation to design a circular rotating aircraft.

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Oct. 2, 1953

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TORONTO, Oct. 1—A closely guarded corner of the A. V. Roe \$50,000,000 aircraft plant at nearby Malton houses Canada's hottest aviation secret—Project Y. There an expanding team of researchers is developing what they hope will be the West's first flying saucer. The paper work has gone about as far as it can go. The next job is to build a prototype. The A. V. Roe Company, a member of the Hawker-Siddeley aircraft group of Britain is hoping that either the Canadian Government or Hawker-Siddeley will decide to back actual construction of the revolutionary disc fighter. The estimated initial cost is \$200,000,000. Much significance is attached to the visit here next week of thirteen of Britain's leading plane jet engine and rocket designers, led by Sir Frank Spriggs, managing director of Hawker-Siddeley. A possible source of help is the United States Air Force. Two weeks ago a team of twenty-five Americans headed by Lieut. Gen. Donald L. Putt, chief of the Air Research and Development Command, viewed a forty-foot wooden mockup of the revolutionary plane and were reported as "deeply impressed."

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Claim: Original Calvin UFO Photo
Thread starterMick West Start dateAug 12, 2022
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Next
Mick West
Mick West
Administrator
Staff member
Aug 12, 2022
#1

Article:

At around 9pm on the evening of Saturday, 4th August 1990, two men on a hillside near Calvin, a small hamlet situated just off the main A9 road, some 35 miles north-west of Perth in Scotland, managed to take six colour photographs of a large, diamond-shaped craft in the fading summer daylight. They watched as it hovered close to their position for some ten minutes, only to shoot off vertically at relatively high speed. When providing their witness statement, the men also recalled seeing what were believed to be RAF jets making multiple low-level passes in the area at the same time. It is still unclear whether the jets were accompanying the strange craft, or just happened to be flying through the area at the time. Calvin lies close to the only main road through that part of the Scottish Highlands, one which is a relatively busy thoroughfare even on summer evenings, and the valley it follows was a popular low-flying route for RAF aircraft. Indeed, Calvin sits in the middle of Low Flying Area 14 (LFA 14) and UAP Media UK member & aviation author Graeme Rendall recalls using various mountainside locations in the general vicinity of Calvin for low-level aviation photography back in the early 2000s.

Source: <https://www.uapmedia.uk/articles/calvinerevealed>

Article:

retired RAF press officer Craig Lindsay. Craig was involved in the Calvin case back in 1990 as the go-between for the Daily Record and the MOD. During his involvement in the case, Craig acquired an original print of the elusive photograph. Along with the photo, Craig had also kept the original envelope containing the photograph sent by the Daily Record to the MOD. In May 2022, David travelled to interview Craig in Scotland and was shown the original print and in June, Craig agreed to donate the photograph to the Sheffield Hallam University Archives, handing it to Dr. Dravid Clarke and Vinnie Adams. The image now resides in its new home at the Sheffield Hallam University folklore archives.

Source: <https://www.uapmedia.uk/articles/calvinerevealed>

Source: <https://twitter.com/PostDisclosure/status/1558134359768662022>

Long a near-mythological image in UFO culture. But what does it show? The original account talks of six color photos, and here we have one (it is in color, but rather washed out). They also discuss it "hovering." It's not being chased by the jet in this photo. I wonder if a simple explanation might be that

it was something like a kite?

2022-08-12_11-26-16.jpg

HD Image:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20220811...wordpress.com/2022/08/watermarked-jpeg-2.jpg>

TIFF file:

Source: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FC0QiQKciRJsZ4pm26hdrFuVv1uzMk-k/view>

Older discussion with more info on the location:

<https://www.metabunk.org/threads/claim-1990-calvine-ufo.11574/>

Thead summary by @Rory

Rory said:

I was thinking 18 pages in it might be nice to have an index of some of the most useful posts. Let me know if I've missed anything important or made any errors (maybe in dm could be best so as not to further clutter up the thread).

Posts on metabunk:

Basic story with links to download the image

Story of how the photographs got to the MoD

Contrast-enhanced image

Colorized image (Photoshop AI)

Comparison of Hawker Hunter with plane outline (also here)

Witnesses' age and why some details still withheld

Summary of Clarke's four articles on Calvin and the Disclosure Team's video

More on Craig Lindsay's interview

December 1990 issue of Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine article showing hypothetical hypersonic craft

Hopeless Diamond images and discussion

Related comments by members of the army and air force (some of whom recall seeing the original photo in the 90s)

Insider view on how easily files and documents are discarded

Tree analysis (and reply)

1991 'retask'

Summary of Calvin mentioned in Nick Pope's book

Info from RAF Lossiemouth

Short summary of Disclosure Team Q&A video (full summary)

Short summary of Stu Little interview (full summary)

Short summary of David Clarke's answers to questions put to him via email (full summary)

Pre-2014 classification system

Reflection hypothesis thread

Summary of hoax theories (and their drawbacks)

Animation of reflection theory by Ruan

External links

Disclosure Team photo reveal and backstory video

Disclosure Team Q&A video

Andrew Robinson photo analysis

Comparison of the two versions of the analysis

Mountaintop hypothesis video

Proposed location for the photo (Google Maps)

Location of viewpoint for the Nick Pope recreation

Pope writing about Calvin in 2012

Nick Pope article in The Sun (October 2020)

Also May 2021

Puerto Rico UFO hoax (example of "model on a string")

Video of Pope talking about Calvine in 2017
Chapter of Pope's book containing writing on Calvine and Aurora
Star decoration hypothesis
Stu Little slideshow

Basic info

Photo allegedly taken around 9pm on Saturday August 4th 1990 (one of six; other five missing)

Sunset in Calvine at 21.22 that day (light conditions in photo very possible)

Area used by military planes for low-level flying - but not on weekends

Photographer likely 18ish at the time, therefore around 50 now

Holiday workers in a kitchen in a hotel in Pitlochry, English accent according to Craig Lindsay (who interviewed one on the phone)

Often reported as the Atholl Palace Hotel but apparently this is incorrect

Photos sent to Scottish Daily Record and from there to MoD

Name known to Clarke & team and they have contacted over 200 people

Photo was never classified as far as we know (photocopies and other related documents weren't)

Photos and story not published (hypothesised as being due to a standing D-notice; Daily Record editor was on the committee)

MoD says negatives returned to Daily Record (disputed by some)

Apparently seen there by photographer Stu Little in 1993 (who says the whole photo is out of focus due to the way it was copied)

A copy of the photo is now archived at Sheffield Hallam University

Last edited: Aug 27, 2022

saucerpilot

Member

Aug 12, 2022

#2

What do you make of the objects at the bottom of the full picture? It appears to be a fence. But the perspective is weird. It looks like the camera is pointed at a downward angle.

Mick West

Mick West

Administrator

Staff member

Aug 12, 2022

#3

saucerpilot said:

What do you make of the objects at the bottom of the full picture? It appears to be a fence. But the perspective is weird. It looks like the camera is pointed at a downward angle.

It's a barbed wire fence, they can be at all kind of angles.

jarlrmai

jarlrmai

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#4

Could this be a shutter artifact? 4 blade shutter, centrally placed in the image.

JMartJr

JMartJr

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#5

Mick West said:

They also discuss it "hovering." It's not being chased by the jet in this photo.

I wonder if a simple explanation might be that it was something like a kite?

Possibly, though the pink/yellow one you found is a fighter kite, and they are more skittery/maneuverable than being good at hovering in place. On the other hand, reflective foil decorative reinforcement points would be pretty common on a fighter, and might be about where the lighter patches are along the CL (the spine, if it is indeed a kite.) Can't find a good picture with a foil patch where the cross-spar and the spine intersect, but I've seen one placed there "in

real life." But here's a pic just to show the general idea. (If UFO is a kite, it is probably a lot less ornately decorative than this one.)

e0f99a8dac8fca5cca6ca353bdbf2e16--homework-ideas-volants.jpg

Just to look at, the UFO appears to be much closer than the jet, I wonder if there is indeed a string involved, but perhaps going up towards those tree branches or a "fishing pole" rather than down towards a kite flier.

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 12, 2022

#6

saucerpilot said:

What do you make of the objects at the bottom of the full picture? It appears to be a fence. But the perspective is weird. It looks like the camera is pointed at a downward angle.

These guys here reckon they've found a candidate for the fence, about half a mile outside the village:

Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IgekUVzMSCc&t=2100s&ab_channel=DisclosureTeam

The one in the photo looks to me more like the angled top part of a chain link fence though, like this:

1660330211713.png

If it was actually a kite then that must mean it's a hoax, right? And if it was a hoax then there's no reliability on the time or location of when the photo was taken.

Last edited: Aug 12, 2022

Ravi

Ravi

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#7

jarlrmai said:

Could this be a shutter artifact? 4 blade shutter, centrally placed in the image.

I found a link to a analysis performed on the print itself, looking for any evidence of manipulation.

Source: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tWMZ232qgDE6Tru7jwgG-nsqoeQZpIm3/view>

Attachments

dfzdf.png

dfzdf.png

125.7 KB · Views: 432

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 12, 2022

#8

There's some very nice fence analysis on the link that Ravi posted. Steers more towards a standard farmer's fence (including highlighting what may be little tufts of animal fur caught on it).

It is an odd angle to take a photo from. The fence the guys in the video identify looks to be about three feet high. If so, the photographer would have been on his knees, very close to the fence, and leaning back.

Ravi

Ravi
Senior Member.
Aug 12, 2022
#9

Rory said:
There's some very nice fence analysis on the link that Ravi posted. Steers more towards a standard farmer's fence (including highlighting what may be little tufts of animal fur caught on it).

It is an odd angle to take a photo from. The fence the guys in the video identify looks to be about three feet high. If so, the photographer would have been on his knees, very close to the fence, and leaning back.

He could also have been on a lower part of the trail/road/mountain? Cairngorm area is very rough, rocky terrain.

Robert Sheaffer
Robert Sheaffer
Member
Aug 12, 2022

#10
What's odd is that it appears that the "UFO" is the only thing actually in focus in the photo. The nearby tree branches, and the distant jet, are all out of focus. That doesn't make sense, unless the UFO is close to the camera. If the object were at least (say) a few hundred meters distant, that would almost certainly be close enough to the camera's infinity focus so that the jet would also be in focus. Most plausible explanation: the UFO is small and closer to the camera than anything else in the photo, and the focus was set for it.

Ravi
Ravi
Senior Member.
Aug 12, 2022

#11
Given the fact the MoD reacted a bit weird with the photo, I am sure it has to do with something military related testing. I was thinking, as it looks like it has some flat panels at odd angles, can it perhaps be a "radar / stealth dirigible" that was floating there?

DavidB66
DavidB66
Senior Member.
Aug 12, 2022

#12
My first impression of the photo was that the UFO is rather dull. My second impression, after seeing 'blown up' versions of the object, is that it looks tatty. Both the upper and lower edges of the object appear ragged, and someone or something has taken a bite out of the upper vertex of the diamond shape (query: was this anywhere near Loch Ness?) Whatever it is, it does not look like a piece of super-hi-tech aerospace equipment, whether human or alien in origin. What it does somewhat resemble is a piece of rather crudely folded paper or cardboard, like the paper darts, hats, boats, etc, made by school children.

Mick West
Mick West
Administrator
Staff member
Aug 12, 2022

#13
jarlrmai said:
Could this be a shutter artifact? 4 blade shutter, centrally placed in the image.

I don't see how that could create a dark shape.

deirdre
deirdre
Senior Member.
Aug 12, 2022

#14

except for what looks like a pearl on the top of the clasp, it reminds me of an arrow head. but england probably doesnt have arrowheads.

so then i thought wire frame earring
1660335626015.png

then i remembered, The Detectorists, and that you guys probably have alot of old spear tips. although they would be harder to hang horizontally than jewelry. plus it doesnt really strike me as metal, more like brown packing paper.

8697707.jpg

saucerpilot

Member

Aug 12, 2022

#15

1660335814387.png

Is the plane a harrier, and can we use that to determine sun angle, or is the light too diffuse through overcast to make an assessment?

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 12, 2022

#16

DavidB66 said:

My second impression, after seeing 'blown up' versions of the object, is that it looks tatty. Whatever it is, it does not look like a piece of super-hi-tech aerospace equipment, whether human or alien in origin. What it does somewhat resemble is a piece of rather crudely folded paper or cardboard, like the paper darts, hats, boats, etc, made by school children.

It doesn't seem tattier than it should do to me, given the quality of the photo. Also pretty symmetrical:

calvine.gif

Ann K

Ann K

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#17

deirdre said:

So then i thought wire frame earring

1660335626015.png

The dark spot's in the middle, and there appears to be a dark streak descending (in this 90° rotated view) from each edge of the spot. Those, your "pearl", and also the whitish places toward each narrow point, look much more like a reflection in the water than an object.

jarlrmai

jarlrmai

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#18

Mick West said:

Long a near-mythological image in UFO culture. But what does it show? The original account talks of six color photos, and here we have one (it is in color, but rather washed out). They also discuss it "hovering." It's not being chased by the jet in this photo. I wonder if a simple explanation might be that it was something like a kite?

quote from the analysis

"Given the image has been taken on black and white film which couldn't record the any chromatic aberration present in the cameras lens this must be chromatic aberration produced by the enlarging lens during the printing of the image."

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 12, 2022

#19

deirdre said:

england probably doesnt have arrowheads.

I think arrowheads are pretty much worldwide: iirc the oldest ones were found in Africa and Asia while Europeans have used bows and arrows for many thousands of years.

PS I know you meant "Scotland". ;)

Mick West

Mick West

Administrator

Staff member

Aug 12, 2022

#20

jarlrmai said:

quote from the analysis

"Given the image has been taken on black and white film which couldn't record the any chromatic aberration present in the cameras lens this must be chromatic aberration produced by the enlarging lens during the printing of the image."

That's puzzling, as it looks like there is color, and not just B&W negative printed on color paper, but actual color. The trees look greener, the

2022-08-12_13-59-48.jpg

Sepia is more like:

2022-08-12_14-01-53.jpg

But maybe the color paper somehow has that effect?

jarlrmai

jarlrmai

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#21

Approximate matching the original photocopy/fax to the new photo gives the same relative position for the jet, indicating they are from the same photo (ie only one photo, rather than 2 different ones)

Although the jet is bolder in the photocopy/fax version which is probably because of some overbleed on the scan/print on a photocopy/fax.

1660339629003.png

DavidB66

DavidB66

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#22

Rory said:

It doesn't seem tattier than it should do to me, given the quality of the photo. Also pretty symmetrical:

View attachment 53347

I'll think about this further tomorrow, but I thought this was being touted as a good quality image? The photographic analysis report states that the 'object' is the best-focussed part of the photo, and that the grain in the area of the object is fairly fine and uniform.

It seems to me (no photographer, of course) that the irregularities in the image go beyond random noise. For example, there is a large dark blotch to the right of the centre of the object, and light patches towards the right and left ends which don't appear due to lighting conditions. The photographic analyst seems to

regard these as genuine. The top of the 'diamond' is also asymmetrical. I described this as a 'bite' out of it, but there is also an area of protrusion just to the right of the top. It almost looks like something has been pushed down along the top right edge of the object. I wonder if this could have been modelled out of clay or plasticine? These aren't the only irregularities, but they are the ones which seem least explicable by mere poor quality in the image.

jarlrmai

jarlrmai

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#23

Mick West said:

That's puzzling, as it looks like there is color, and not just B&W negative printed on color paper, but actual color. The trees look greener, the

View attachment 53353

Sepia is more like:

View attachment 53354

But maybe the color paper somehow has that effect?

It could also be down to the scanning method.

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 12, 2022

#24

DavidB66 said:

I'll think about this further tomorrow, but I thought this was being touted as a good quality image?

Ah true, if it's in relation to that claim then it certainly is "tatty". For me I just think it fits in with the quality of the rest of the photo (which isn't great).

I read at some point a high resolution image will be released so perhaps more of these questions will be answered then.

Mick West

Mick West

Administrator

Staff member

Aug 12, 2022

#25

jarlrmai said:

quote from the analysis

"Given the image has been taken on black and white film which couldn't record the any chromatic aberration present in the cameras lens this must be chromatic aberration produced by the enlarging lens during the printing of the image."

Boosting the contrast a lot it does look like there's a graduated red-green color cast across the image, and the trees just happen to be in the green/blue bit.

2022-08-12_14-12-12.jpg

deirdre

deirdre

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#26

DavidB66 said:

The top of the 'diamond' is also asymmetrical

yea it isnt at all symmetrical. if the bottom wasnt so pointy i would say it looks like a moldy ravioli or one of those handheld fruit pies.

UnkownPerson

New Member

Aug 12, 2022

#27

I am new here. I've tried to colorize the picture a bit. Hope this helps in any way.

Attachments

Calvine Ufo.jpg

Calvine Ufo.jpg

517.1 KB · Views: 396

Robert Sheaffer

Robert Sheaffer

Member

Aug 12, 2022

#28

I think that the color is just an artifact of printing a black-and-white photo on color paper. The paper needs to combine the colors it has to make black, which is probably not the same as "true black".

I see a similar effect when I scan a black-and-white document or photo using a "color scan" setting.

Mick West

Mick West

Administrator

Staff member

Aug 12, 2022

#29

Reflection hypothesis moved to:

<https://www.metabunk.org/threads/calvine-ufo-photo-reflection-in-water-hypothesis.12572/>

Robert Sheaffer

Robert Sheaffer

Member

Aug 12, 2022

#30

Let me suggest a straw-man hypothesis for the Calvine photo, let's see if it can be torn down. It's based primarily on the focus of different objects.

1. Closest to the camera is the "UFO," a small object held up by one or more strings. Possibly a small kite. The camera's focus is set for this object.

2. Next closest to being in focus are the tree branches, farther away than the UFO.

3. Next closest is the fence, well beyond the tree branches.

4. The most distant object seen, the Harrier jet, is out of focus.

The principal take-away is, the presumably distant UFO is in focus while the actually distant jet is not. We still don't know what kind of camera and lens was used, so we can't quantify the depth of field. We also don't know the f/stop used, which determines the depth of field. The analysis of Andrew Robinson suggests that it was probably taken with a small 35mm camera, with a lens around 50-110mm focus. In other words, very ordinary.

If the UFO were at least as far as the tree leaves or the fence are from the camera, it, too, would be out-of-focus.

jackfrostrvc

jackfrostrvc

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#31

Is there a copy of the hand written incident report?

jackfrostrvc

jackfrostrvc

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#32

Also, how do we know what we are seeing is objects against all cloud as opposed to objects against clouds(top half) and fog (bottom half)
Say for example a situation like below where a distant hill is visible amongst the cloud and fog. And a plane is say flying in the valley

1660367199030.png

Ravi

Ravi

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#33

jackfrosv said:

Also, how do we know what we are seeing is objects against all cloud as opposed to objects against clouds(top half) and fog (bottom half)
Say for example a situation like below where a distant hill is visible amongst the cloud and fog. And a plane is say flying in the valley

View attachment 53381

I would like to think in that direction, but look at post #25.. I cannot see anything else but clouds....

DavidB66

DavidB66

Senior Member.

Aug 13, 2022

#34

We seem to be generally accepting the expert's 'considered opinion' (his own words) that the image is the result of a monochrome (black-and-white) negative printed on colour film paper.

This may be correct, but his grounds for the conclusion are not overwhelming. They seem to be essentially that the areas of the image that we would expect to show colour (sky, trees, grass) don't show 'true' colour. I will refrain from jokes about 'true' Scotsmen, but I wonder how much colour we would expect to see in the sky in Scotland near sunset? Having concluded, on these rather weak grounds, that the original negative was black-and-white, the expert considers the kinds of film stock available (remember that this was 1990, when B&W photography was a rare speciality), and draws the important inference that the photographer was probably relatively knowledgeable about the subject.

I don't think we should swallow this whole. The alternative is that the photographer used bog-standard colour film which due to lighting conditions and camera settings produced a dull, washed-out image.

However, supposing that the expert's opinion is correct, there is a further inference to be drawn: that someone (the knowledgeable photographer?) chose to have the negative printed on colour paper, which was bound to introduce some artifacts, rather than getting a monochrome print. Since this was potentially the photograph of the century, this is unfortunate.

[Added: I found an earlier article by David Clarke which gives a lot of detail about the MoD involvement with the case.

<https://drdavidclarke.co.uk/secret-files/the-calvine-ufo-photographs/>

I notice that according to a hand-written note on the MoD file a series of six colour photographs were taken by the informant
This supports my suspicion that the original photo really was taken in colour, but it may of course be mistaken.]

Last edited: Aug 13, 2022

Mendel

Mendel

Senior Member.

Aug 13, 2022

#35

Robert Sheaffer said:

What's odd is that it appears that the "UFO" is the only thing actually in focus in the photo. The nearby tree branches, and the distant jet, are all out of focus. That doesn't make sense, unless the UFO is close to the camera. If the object were at least (say) a few hundred meters distant, that would almost certainly be close enough to the camera's infinity focus so that the jet would also be in focus. Most plausible explanation: the UFO is small and closer to the camera than anything else in the photo, and the focus was set for it. If the jet has motion blur, it may be in focus.

Liptrot

New Member

Aug 13, 2022

#36

It is pretty unusual - outside major exercises - for RAF / Fleet Air Arm (FAA) jets to be flying on Saturdays at all, never mind Saturday evenings; at least, since the end of the Cold War.

Can any of you photo. interpreters give an idea of whether the aircraft is a 1st or 2nd generation Harrier? The wing platform is quite different.

If it's a 1st generation Harrier (RAF GR1 / 3, FAA FRS-1 / FA-2, USMC / Spanish / Thai AV-8A) the RAF had replaced these with 2nd gen Harriers by 1990, and the aircraft on the pic, if taken when it was said to have been, must be a FAA machine (probably a FA-2)

If a 2nd gen Harrier, could only be an RAF machine in 1990.

jackfrostrvc

jackfrostrvc

Senior Member.

Aug 13, 2022

#37

This Calvin case reminds me of the balloons they fly in Medellin Columbia

Here is one that people thought was a diamond shaped UFO like the Calvin one, complete with plane flying by:

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NfKe4ZNX38>

1660397906918.png

1660398003887.png

Probably a balloon from the Medellin festival like this one probably was:

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2DUSwVoLjQ>

Ann K

Ann K

Senior Member.

Aug 13, 2022

#38

Robert Sheaffer said:

Let me suggest a straw-man hypothesis for the Calvin photo, let's see if it can be torn down. It's based primarily on the focus of different objects.

1. Closest to the camera is the "UFO," a small object held up by one or more strings. Possibly a small kite. The camera's focus is set for this object.

2. Next closest to being in focus are the tree branches, farther away than the UFO.

3. Next closest is the fence, well beyond the tree branches.

4. The most distant object seen, the Harrier jet, is out of focus.

The principal take-away is, the presumably distant UFO is in focus while the actually distant jet is not. We still don't know what kind of camera and lens was used, so we can't quantify the depth of field. We also don't know the f/stop used, which determines the depth of field. The analysis of Andrew Robinson suggests that it was probably taken with a small 35mm camera, with a lens around 50-110mm focus. In other words, very ordinary.

If the UFO were at least as far as the tree leaves or the fence are from the camera, it, too, would be out-of-focus.

The jet, of course, is moving, which would explain why it's out of focus, and it's possible that the tree branch was also in motion.

If the photographer were actually trying to get a quick picture of a low-flying jet that he saw approaching, he might have focused on the object then snapped the photo just when the jet reached his position.

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 13, 2022

#39

DavidB66 said:

However, supposing that the expert's opinion is correct, there is a further inference to be drawn: that someone (the knowledgeable photographer?) chose to have the negative printed on colour paper, which was bound to introduce some artifacts, rather than getting a monochrome print. Since this was potentially the photograph of the century, this is unfortunate.

According to David Clarke here:

1. The photographer sent the negatives to the newspaper
2. The newspaper sent them to the RAF
3. The MoD had them printed
4. They returned the negatives to the newspaper
5. Neither the newspaper nor the MoD retained the negatives

According to his article in the Daily Mail though:

1. The photographer sent photographs to the newspaper
2. The newspaper passed these photographs on to the MoD in this envelope:

1660407351592.png

3. RAF Officer Craig Lindsay took a copy of the best image before sending the case dossier to the MoD in London
4. Later in the article Clarke writes that "Lindsay arranged for the negatives the men had handed to the Daily Record to be collected"
5. Lindsay then says that the MoD's UFO-desk in London asked him if he could get the negatives

So there seems to be some confusion about whether the newspaper received negatives or photographs. But going by the above I would think it most likely that the photographer sent photographs and that these were passed on to the MoD, with negatives being collected later, because: i) I would expect the photographer to have had his photos developed; ii) the size of the envelope and the label; iii) what Lindsay said.

DavidB66

DavidB66

Senior Member.

Aug 13, 2022

#40

Robert Sheaffer said:

What's odd is that it appears that the "UFO" is the only thing actually in focus

in the photo. The nearby tree branches, and the distant jet, are all out of focus. That doesn't make sense, unless the UFO is close to the camera. If the object were at least (say) a few hundred meters distant, that would almost certainly be close enough to the camera's infinity focus so that the jet would also be in focus. Most plausible explanation: the UFO is small and closer to the camera than anything else in the photo, and the focus was set for it. It should be noted that the photography expert, Andrew Robinson of Sheffield Hallam University, has revised his report analysing the photo. Most importantly, he includes an entirely new 'conclusion' and section on the apparent physical size of the object. The conclusion is that it is probably between 30m and 40m in length, and between 8m and 12m in height. This is based on a simple interpolation of linear size between the known length of a Harrier jet and the most likely size of the distance between barbs on the fence. It assumes that the object is between the fence and the Harrier, and takes a range of distances for the object at 33%, 50% and 66% of the distance between the fence and the Harrier. He then says 'assuming the position of the unidentified object is (as it appears to be) closer to the Jet in the background than the fence in the foreground...' and reaches the 30m-40m estimated size range. As far as I can see, he gives no reason whatever for saying that the object 'appears to be' closer to the jet than the fence. One might expect there to be some additional discussion of focus in this context, but as far as I can see this has not been amended from the previous version, which merely noted that the object appears to be in better focus than either closer or more distant objects.

It may be noted that Andrew Robinson

<https://www.shu.ac.uk/about-us/our-people/staff-profiles/andrew-robinson#firstSection>

and David Clarke

<https://www.shu.ac.uk/about-us/our-people/staff-profiles/david-clarke#firstSection>

are both academics in the Department of Media Arts and Communication at Sheffield Hallam University. As an Associate Professor Clarke is probably ranked higher than Robinson (a Senior Lecturer).

This is a link to the revised report as I found it linked in a tweet:

Source: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QPqd-G9f7vMW77orEHLvQHagrxm3uZ9r/view>

1

2

3

...

45

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Claim: Original Calvin UFO Photo
Thread starterMick West Start dateAug 12, 2022

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Next
Mick West
Mick West
Administrator
Staff member
Aug 12, 2022
#1

Article:

At around 9pm on the evening of Saturday, 4th August 1990, two men on a hillside near Calvin, a small hamlet situated just off the main A9 road, some 35 miles north-west of Perth in Scotland, managed to take six colour photographs of a large, diamond-shaped craft in the fading summer daylight. They watched as it hovered close to their position for some ten minutes, only to shoot off vertically at relatively high speed. When providing their witness statement, the men also recalled seeing what were believed to be RAF jets making multiple low-level passes in the area at the same time. It is still unclear whether the jets were accompanying the strange craft, or just happened to be flying through the area at the time. Calvin lies close to the only main road through that part of the Scottish Highlands, one which is a relatively busy thoroughfare even on summer evenings, and the valley it follows was a popular low-flying route for RAF aircraft. Indeed, Calvin sits in the middle of Low Flying Area 14 (LFA 14) and UAP Media UK member & aviation author Graeme Rendall recalls using various mountainside locations in the general vicinity of Calvin for low-level aviation photography back in the early 2000s.

Source: <https://www.uapmedia.uk/articles/calvinrevealed>

Article:

retired RAF press officer Craig Lindsay. Craig was involved in the Calvin case back in 1990 as the go-between for the Daily Record and the MOD. During his involvement in the case, Craig acquired an original print of the elusive photograph. Along with the photo, Craig had also kept the original envelope

containing the photograph sent by the Daily Record to the MOD. In May 2022, David travelled to interview Craig in Scotland and was shown the original print and in June, Craig agreed to donate the photograph to the Sheffield Hallam University Archives, handing it to Dr. Dravid Clarke and Vinnie Adams. The image now resides in its new home at the Sheffield Hallam University folklore archives.

Source: <https://www.uapmedia.uk/articles/calvinerevealed>

Source: <https://twitter.com/PostDisclosure/status/1558134359768662022>

Long a near-mythological image in UFO culture. But what does it show? The original account talks of six color photos, and here we have one (it is in color, but rather washed out). They also discuss it "hovering." It's not being chased by the jet in this photo. I wonder if a simple explanation might be that it was something like a kite?

2022-08-12_11-26-16.jpg

HD Image:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20220811...wordpress.com/2022/08/watermarked-jpeg-2.jpg>

TIFF file:

Source: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FC0QiQKciRJsZ4pm26hdrFuVv1uzMk-k/view>

Older discussion with more info on the location:

<https://www.metabunk.org/threads/claim-1990-calvine-ufo.11574/>

Thread summary by @Rory

Rory said:

I was thinking 18 pages in it might be nice to have an index of some of the most useful posts. Let me know if I've missed anything important or made any errors (maybe in dm could be best so as not to further clutter up the thread).

Posts on metabunk:

Basic story with links to download the image

Story of how the photographs got to the MoD

Contrast-enhanced image

Colorized image (Photoshop AI)

Comparison of Hawker Hunter with plane outline (also here)

Witnesses' age and why some details still withheld

Summary of Clarke's four articles on Calvin and the Disclosure Team's video

More on Craig Lindsay's interview

December 1990 issue of Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine article showing hypothetical hypersonic craft

Hopeless Diamond images and discussion

Related comments by members of the army and air force (some of whom recall seeing the original photo in the 90s)

Insider view on how easily files and documents are discarded

Tree analysis (and reply)

1991 'retask'

Summary of Calvin mentioned in Nick Pope's book

Info from RAF Lossiemouth

Short summary of Disclosure Team Q&A video (full summary)

Short summary of Stu Little interview (full summary)

Short summary of David Clarke's answers to questions put to him via email (full summary)

Pre-2014 classification system
Reflection hypothesis thread
Summary of hoax theories (and their drawbacks)
Animation of reflection theory by Ruan

External links

Disclosure Team photo reveal and backstory video
Disclosure Team Q&A video
Andrew Robinson photo analysis
Comparison of the two versions of the analysis
Mountaintop hypothesis video
Proposed location for the photo (Google Maps)
Location of viewpoint for the Nick Pope recreation
Pope writing about Calvin in 2012
Nick Pope article in The Sun (October 2020)
Also May 2021
Puerto Rico UFO hoax (example of "model on a string")
Video of Pope talking about Calvin in 2017
Chapter of Pope's book containing writing on Calvin and Aurora
Star decoration hypothesis
Stu Little slideshow

Basic info

Photo allegedly taken around 9pm on Saturday August 4th 1990 (one of six; other five missing)
Sunset in Calvin at 21.22 that day (light conditions in photo very possible)
Area used by military planes for low-level flying - but not on weekends
Photographer likely 18ish at the time, therefore around 50 now
Holiday workers in a kitchen in a hotel in Pitlochry, English accent according to Craig Lindsay (who interviewed one on the phone)
Often reported as the Atholl Palace Hotel but apparently this is incorrect
Photos sent to Scottish Daily Record and from there to MoD
Name known to Clarke & team and they have contacted over 200 people
Photo was never classified as far as we know (photocopies and other related documents weren't)
Photos and story not published (hypothesised as being due to a standing D-notice; Daily Record editor was on the committee)
MoD says negatives returned to Daily Record (disputed by some)
Apparently seen there by photographer Stu Little in 1993 (who says the whole photo is out of focus due to the way it was copied)
A copy of the photo is now archived at Sheffield Hallam University
Last edited: Aug 27, 2022

saucerpilot

Member

Aug 12, 2022

#2

What do you make of the objects at the bottom of the full picture? It appears to be a fence. But the perspective is weird. It looks like the camera is pointed at a downward angle.

Mick West

Mick West

Administrator

Staff member

Aug 12, 2022

#3

saucerpilot said:

What do you make of the objects at the bottom of the full picture? It appears to be a fence. But the perspective is weird. It looks like the camera is pointed at a downward angle.

It's a barbed wire fence, they can be at all kind of angles.

jarlrmai

jarlrmai

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#4

Could this be a shutter artifact? 4 blade shutter, centrally placed in the image.

JMartJr

JMartJr

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#5

Mick West said:

They also discuss it "hovering." It's not being chased by the jet in this photo. I wonder if a simple explanation might be that it was something like a kite? Possibly, though the pink/yellow one you found is a fighter kite, and they are more skittery/maneuverable than being good at hovering in place. On the other hand, reflective foil decorative reinforcement points would be pretty common on a fighter, and might be about where the lighter patches are along the CL (the spine, if it is indeed a kite.) Can't find a good picture with a foil patch where the cross-spar and the spine intersect, but I've seen one placed there "in real life." But here's a pic just to show the general idea. (If UFO is a kite, it is probably a lot less ornately decorative than this one.)

e0f99a8dac8fca5cca6ca353bdbf2e16--homework-ideas-volants.jpg

Just to look at, the UFO appears to be much closer than the jet, I wonder if there is indeed a string involved, but perhaps going up towards those tree branches or a "fishing pole" rather than down towards a kite flier.

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 12, 2022

#6

saucerpilot said:

What do you make of the objects at the bottom of the full picture? It appears to be a fence. But the perspective is weird. It looks like the camera is pointed at a downward angle.

These guys here reckon they've found a candidate for the fence, about half a mile outside the village:

Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IgekUVzMSCc&t=2100s&ab_channel=DisclosureTeam

The one in the photo looks to me more like the angled top part of a chain link fence though, like this:

1660330211713.png

If it was actually a kite then that must mean it's a hoax, right? And if it was a hoax then there's no reliability on the time or location of when the photo was taken.

Last edited: Aug 12, 2022

Ravi

Ravi

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#7

jarlrmai said:

Could this be a shutter artifact? 4 blade shutter, centrally placed in the image.

I found a link to a analysis performed on the print itself, looking for any evidence of manipulation.

Source: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tWMZ232qgDE6Tru7jwgG-nsqoeQZpIm3/view>
Attachments
dfzdf.png
dfzdf.png
125.7 KB · Views: 432

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 12, 2022

#8

There's some very nice fence analysis on the link that Ravi posted. Steers more towards a standard farmer's fence (including highlighting what may be little tufts of animal fur caught on it).

It is an odd angle to take a photo from. The fence the guys in the video identify looks to be about three feet high. If so, the photographer would have been on his knees, very close to the fence, and leaning back.

Ravi

Ravi

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#9

Rory said:

There's some very nice fence analysis on the link that Ravi posted. Steers more towards a standard farmer's fence (including highlighting what may be little tufts of animal fur caught on it).

It is an odd angle to take a photo from. The fence the guys in the video identify looks to be about three feet high. If so, the photographer would have been on his knees, very close to the fence, and leaning back.

He could also have been on a lower part of the trail/road/mountain? Cairngorm area is very rough, rocky terrain.

Robert Sheaffer

Robert Sheaffer

Member

Aug 12, 2022

#10

What's odd is that it appears that the "UFO" is the only thing actually in focus in the photo. The nearby tree branches, and the distant jet, are all out of focus. That doesn't make sense, unless the UFO is close to the camera. If the object were at least (say) a few hundred meters distant, that would almost certainly be close enough to the camera's infinity focus so that the jet would also be in focus. Most plausible explanation: the UFO is small and closer to the camera than anything else in the photo, and the focus was set for it.

Ravi

Ravi

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#11

Given the fact the MoD reacted a bit weird with the photo, I am sure it has to do with something military related testing. I was thinking, as it looks like it has some flat panels at odd angles, can it perhaps be a "radar / stealth dirigible" that was floating there?

DavidB66

DavidB66

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#12

My first impression of the photo was that the UFO is rather dull. My second impression, after seeing 'blown up' versions of the object, is that it looks tatty. Both the upper and lower edges of the object appear ragged, and someone or something has taken a bite out of the upper vertex of the diamond shape

(query: was this anywhere near Loch Ness?) Whatever it is, it does not look like a piece of super-hi-tech aerospace equipment, whether human or alien in origin. What it does somewhat resemble is a piece of rather crudely folded paper or cardboard, like the paper darts, hats, boats, etc, made by school children.

Mick West

Mick West

Administrator

Staff member

Aug 12, 2022

#13

jarlrmai said:

Could this be a shutter artifact? 4 blade shutter, centrally placed in the image.

I don't see how that could create a dark shape.

deirdre

deirdre

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#14

except for what looks like a pearl on the top of the clasp, it reminds me of an arrow head. but england probably doesnt have arrowheads.

so then i thought wire frame earring

1660335626015.png

then i remembered, The Detectorists, and that you guys probably have alot of old spear tips. although they would be harder to hang horizontally than jewelry. plus it doesnt really strike me as metal, more like brown packing paper.

8697707.jpg

saucerpilot

Member

Aug 12, 2022

#15

1660335814387.png

Is the plane a harrier, and can we use that to determine sun angle, or is the light too diffuse through overcast to make an assessment?

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 12, 2022

#16

DavidB66 said:

My second impression, after seeing 'blown up' versions of the object, is that it looks tatty. Whatever it is, it does not look like a piece of super-hi-tech aerospace equipment, whether human or alien in origin. What it does somewhat resemble is a piece of rather crudely folded paper or cardboard, like the paper darts, hats, boats, etc, made by school children.

It doesn't seem tattier than it should do to me, given the quality of the photo. Also pretty symmetrical:

calvine.gif

Ann K

Ann K

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#17

deirdre said:

So then i thought wire frame earring

1660335626015.png

The dark spot's in the middle, and there appears to be a dark streak descending (in this 90° rotated view) from each edge of the spot. Those, your "pearl", and also the whitish places toward each narrow point, look much more like a reflection in the water than an object.

jarlrmai
jarlrmai
Senior Member.
Aug 12, 2022
#18

Mick West said:

Long a near-mythological image in UFO culture. But what does it show? The original account talks of six color photos, and here we have one (it is in color, but rather washed out). They also discuss it "hovering." It's not being chased by the jet in this photo. I wonder if a simple explanation might be that it was something like a kite?

quote from the analysis

"Given the image has been taken on black and white film which couldn't record the any chromatic aberration present in the cameras lens this must be chromatic aberration produced by the enlarging lens during the printing of the image."

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 12, 2022

#19

deirdre said:

england probably doesnt have arrowheads.

I think arrowheads are pretty much worldwide: iirc the oldest ones were found in Africa and Asia while Europeans have used bows and arrows for many thousands of years.

PS I know you meant "Scotland". ;)

Mick West

Mick West

Administrator

Staff member

Aug 12, 2022

#20

jarlrmai said:

quote from the analysis

"Given the image has been taken on black and white film which couldn't record the any chromatic aberration present in the cameras lens this must be chromatic aberration produced by the enlarging lens during the printing of the image."

That's puzzling, as it looks like there is color, and not just B&W negative printed on color paper, but actual color. The trees look greener, the

2022-08-12_13-59-48.jpg

Sepia is more like:

2022-08-12_14-01-53.jpg

But maybe the color paper somehow has that effect?

jarlrmai

jarlrmai

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#21

Approximate matching the original photocopy/fax to the new photo gives the same relative position for the jet, indicating they are from the same photo (ie only one photo, rather than 2 different ones)

Although the jet is bolder in the photocopy/fax version which is probably because of some overbleed on the scan/print on a photocopy/fax.

1660339629003.png

DavidB66

DavidB66

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#22

Rory said:

It doesn't seem tattier than it should do to me, given the quality of the photo. Also pretty symmetrical:

View attachment 53347

I'll think about this further tomorrow, but I thought this was being touted as a good quality image? The photographic analysis report states that the 'object' is the best-focussed part of the photo, and that the grain in the area of the object is fairly fine and uniform.

It seems to me (no photographer, of course) that the irregularities in the image go beyond random noise. For example, there is a large dark blotch to the right of the centre of the object, and light patches towards the right and left ends which don't appear due to lighting conditions. The photographic analyst seems to regard these as genuine. The top of the 'diamond' is also asymmetrical. I described this as a 'bite' out of it, but there is also an area of protrusion just to the right of the top. It almost looks like something has been pushed down along the top right edge of the object. I wonder if this could have been modelled out of clay or plasticine? These aren't the only irregularities, but they are the ones which seem least explicable by mere poor quality in the image.

jarlrmai

jarlrmai

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#23

Mick West said:

That's puzzling, as it looks like there is color, and not just B&W negative printed on color paper, but actual color. The trees look greener, the

View attachment 53353

Sepia is more like:

View attachment 53354

But maybe the color paper somehow has that effect?

It could also be down to the scanning method.

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 12, 2022

#24

DavidB66 said:

I'll think about this further tomorrow, but I thought this was being touted as a good quality image?

Ah true, if it's in relation to that claim then it certainly is "tatty". For me I just think it fits in with the quality of the rest of the photo (which isn't great).

I read at some point a high resolution image will be released so perhaps more of these questions will be answered then.

Mick West

Mick West

Administrator

Staff member

Aug 12, 2022

#25

jarlrmai said:

quote from the analysis

"Given the image has been taken on black and white film which couldn't record the any chromatic aberration present in the cameras lens this must be chromatic aberration produced by the enlarging lens during the printing of the image."

Boosting the contrast a lot it does look like there's a graduated red-green color cast across the image, and the trees just happen to be in the green/blue bit.

2022-08-12_14-12-12.jpg

deirdre

deirdre

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#26

DavidB66 said:

The top of the 'diamond' is also asymmetrical

yea it isnt at all symmetrical. if the bottom wasnt so pointy i would say it looks like a moldy ravioli or one of those handheld fruit pies.

UnkownPerson

New Member

Aug 12, 2022

#27

I am new here. I've tried to colorize the picture a bit. Hope this helps in any way.

Attachments

Calvine Ufo.jpg

Calvine Ufo.jpg

517.1 KB · Views: 396

Robert Sheaffer

Robert Sheaffer

Member

Aug 12, 2022

#28

I think that the color is just an artifact of printing a black-and-white photo on color paper. The paper needs to combine the colors it has to make black, which is probably not the same as "true black".

I see a similar effect when I scan a black-and-white document or photo using a "color scan" setting.

Mick West

Mick West

Administrator

Staff member

Aug 12, 2022

#29

Reflection hypothesis moved to:

<https://www.metabunk.org/threads/calvine-ufo-photo-reflection-in-water-hypothesis.12572/>

Robert Sheaffer

Robert Sheaffer

Member

Aug 12, 2022

#30

Let me suggest a straw-man hypothesis for the Calvin photo, let's see if it can be torn down. It's based primarily on the focus of different objects.

1. Closest to the camera is the "UFO," a small object held up by one or more strings. Possibly a small kite. The camera's focus is set for this object.

2. Next closest to being in focus are the tree branches, farther away than the UFO.

3. Next closest is the fence, well beyond the tree branches.

4. The most distant object seen, the Harrier jet, is out of focus.

The principal take-away is, the presumably distant UFO is in focus while the actually distant jet is not. We still don't know what kind of camera and lens was used, so we can't quantify the depth of field. We also don't know the f/stop used, which determines the depth of field. The analysis of Andrew Robinson suggests that it was probably taken with a small 35mm camera, with a lens around 50-110mm focus. In other words, very ordinary.

If the UFO were at least as far as the tree leaves or the fence are from the camera, it, too, would be out-of-focus.

jackfrostrvc

jackfrostrvc

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#31

Is there a copy of the hand written incident report?

jackfrostrvc

jackfrostrvc

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#32

Also, how do we know what we are seeing is objects against all cloud as opposed to objects against clouds(top half) and fog (bottom half)

Say for example a situation like below where a distant hill is visible amongst the cloud and fog. And a plane is say flying in the valley

1660367199030.png

Ravi

Ravi

Senior Member.

Aug 12, 2022

#33

jackfrostrvc said:

Also, how do we know what we are seeing is objects against all cloud as opposed to objects against clouds(top half) and fog (bottom half)

Say for example a situation like below where a distant hill is visible amongst the cloud and fog. And a plane is say flying in the valley

View attachment 53381

I would like to think in that direction, but look at post #25.. I cannot see anything else but clouds....

DavidB66

DavidB66

Senior Member.

Aug 13, 2022

#34

We seem to be generally accepting the expert's 'considered opinion' (his own words) that the image is the result of a monochrome (black-and-white) negative printed on colour film paper.

This may be correct, but his grounds for the conclusion are not overwhelming.

They seem to be essentially that the areas of the image that we would expect to show colour (sky, trees, grass) don't show 'true' colour. I will refrain from jokes about 'true' Scotsmen, but I wonder how much colour we would expect to see in the sky in Scotland near sunset? Having concluded, on these rather weak grounds, that the original negative was black-and-white, the expert considers the kinds of film stock available (remember that this was 1990, when B&W photography was a rare speciality), and draws the important inference that the photographer was probably relatively knowledgeable about the subject.

I don't think we should swallow this whole. The alternative is that the photographer used bog-standard colour film which due to lighting conditions and camera settings produced a dull, washed-out image.

However, supposing that the expert's opinion is correct, there is a further inference to be drawn: that someone (the knowledgeable photographer?) chose to have the negative printed on colour paper, which was bound to introduce some

artifacts, rather than getting a monochrome print. Since this was potentially the photograph of the century, this is unfortunate.

[Added: I found an earlier article by David Clarke which gives a lot of detail about the MoD involvement with the case.

<https://drdavidclarke.co.uk/secret-files/the-calvine-ufo-photographs/>

I notice that according to a hand-written note on the MoD file a series of six colour photographs were taken by the informant This supports my suspicion that the original photo really was taken in colour, but it may of course be mistaken.]

Last edited: Aug 13, 2022

Mendel

Mendel

Senior Member.

Aug 13, 2022

#35

Robert Sheaffer said:

What's odd is that it appears that the "UFO" is the only thing actually in focus in the photo. The nearby tree branches, and the distant jet, are all out of focus. That doesn't make sense, unless the UFO is close to the camera. If the object were at least (say) a few hundred meters distant, that would almost certainly be close enough to the camera's infinity focus so that the jet would also be in focus. Most plausible explanation: the UFO is small and closer to the camera than anything else in the photo, and the focus was set for it.

If the jet has motion blur, it may be in focus.

Liptrot

New Member

Aug 13, 2022

#36

It is pretty unusual - outside major exercises - for RAF / Fleet Air Arm (FAA) jets to be flying on Saturdays at all, never mind Saturday evenings; at least, since the end of the Cold War.

Can any of you photo. interpreters give an idea of whether the aircraft is a 1st or 2nd generation Harrier? The wing platform is quite different.

If it's a 1st generation Harrier (RAF GR1 / 3, FAA FRS-1 / FA-2, USMC / Spanish / Thai AV-8A) the RAF had replaced these with 2nd gen Harriers by 1990, and the aircraft on the pic, if taken when it was said to have been, must be a FAA machine (probably a FA-2)

If a 2nd gen Harrier, could only be an RAF machine in 1990.

jackfrostrvc

jackfrostrvc

Senior Member.

Aug 13, 2022

#37

This Calvin case reminds me of the balloons they fly in Medellin Columbia

Here is one that people thought was a diamond shaped UFO like the Calvin one, complete with plane flying by:

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NfKe4ZNX38>

1660397906918.png

1660398003887.png

Probably a balloon from the Medellin festival like this one probably was:

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2DUSwVoLjQ>

Ann K

Ann K

Senior Member.

Aug 13, 2022

#38

Robert Sheaffer said:

Let me suggest a straw-man hypothesis for the Calvine photo, let's see if it can be torn down. It's based primarily on the focus of different objects.

1. Closest to the camera is the "UFO," a small object held up by one or more strings. Possibly a small kite. The camera's focus is set for this object.
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The principal take -away is, the presumably distant UFO is in focus while the actually distant jet is not. We still don't know what kind of camera and lens was used, so we can't quantify the depth of field. We also don't know the f/stop used, which determines the depth of field. The analysis of Andrew Robinson suggests that it was probably taken with a small 35mm camera, with a lens around 50-110mm focus. In other words, very ordinary.

If the UFO were at least as far as the tree leaves or the fence are from the camera, it, too, would be out-of-focus.

The jet, of course, is moving, which would explain why it's out of focus, and it's possible that the tree branch was also in motion.

If the photographer were actually trying to get a quick picture of a low-flying jet that he saw approaching, he might have focused on the object then snapped the photo just when the jet reached his position.

Rory

Rory

Closed Account

Aug 13, 2022

#39

DavidB66 said:

However, supposing that the expert's opinion is correct, there is a further inference to be drawn: that someone (the knowledgeable photographer?) chose to have the negative printed on colour paper, which was bound to introduce some artifacts, rather than getting a monochrome print. Since this was potentially the photograph of the century, this is unfortunate.

According to David Clarke here:

1. The photographer sent the negatives to the newspaper
2. The newspaper sent them to the RAF
3. The MoD had them printed
4. They returned the negatives to the newspaper
5. Neither the newspaper nor the MoD retained the negatives

According to his article in the Daily Mail though:

1. The photographer sent photographs to the newspaper
2. The newspaper passed these photographs on to the MoD in this envelope:

1660407351592.png

3. RAF Officer Craig Lindsay took a copy of the best image before sending the

case dossier to the MoD in London

4. Later in the article Clarke writes that "Lindsay arranged for the negatives the men had handed to the Daily Record to be collected"

5. Lindsay then says that the MoD's UFO-desk in London asked him if he could get the negatives

So there seems to be some confusion about whether the newspaper received negatives or photographs. But going by the above I would think it most likely that the photographer sent photographs and that these were passed on to the MoD, with negatives being collected later, because: i) I would expect the photographer to have had his photos developed; ii) the size of the envelope and the label; iii) what Lindsay said.

DavidB66

DavidB66

Senior Member.

Aug 13, 2022

#40

Robert Sheaffer said:

What's odd is that it appears that the "UFO" is the only thing actually in focus in the photo. The nearby tree branches, and the distant jet, are all out of focus. That doesn't make sense, unless the UFO is close to the camera. If the object were at least (say) a few hundred meters distant, that would almost certainly be close enough to the camera's infinity focus so that the jet would also be in focus. Most plausible explanation: the UFO is small and closer to the camera than anything else in the photo, and the focus was set for it.

It should be noted that the photography expert, Andrew Robinson of Sheffield Hallam University, has revised his report analysing the photo. Most importantly, he includes an entirely new 'conclusion' and section on the apparent physical size of the object. The conclusion is that it is probably between 30m and 40m in length, and between 8m and 12m in height. This is based on a simple interpolation of linear size between the known length of a Harrier jet and the most likely size of the distance between barbs on the fence. It assumes that the object is between the fence and the Harrier, and takes a range of distances for the object at 33%, 50% and 66% of the distance between the fence and the Harrier. He then says 'assuming the position of the unidentified object is (as it appears to be) closer to the Jet in the background than the fence in the foreground...' and reaches the 30m-40m estimated size range. As far as I can see, he gives no reason whatever for saying that the object 'appears to be' closer to the jet than the fence. One might expect there to be some additional discussion of focus in this context, but as far as I can see this has not been amended from the previous version, which merely noted that the object appears to be in better focus than either closer or more distant objects.

It may be noted that Andrew Robinson

<https://www.shu.ac.uk/about-us/our-people/staff-profiles/andrew-robinson#firstSection>

and David Clarke

<https://www.shu.ac.uk/about-us/our-people/staff-profiles/david-clarke#firstSection>

are both academics in the Department of Media Arts and Communication at Sheffield Hallam University. As an Associate Professor Clarke is probably ranked higher than Robinson (a Senior Lecturer).

This is a link to the revised report as I found it linked in a tweet:

Source: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QPqd-G9f7vMW77orEHLvQHagrxm3uZ9r/view>

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Secret behind 'best ever' UFO sighting revealed

An ex- defence intelligence officer has revealed the secret behind the massive, diamond-shaped vehicle in the "world's best" UFO photo.

Henry Holloway and The Sun

7 min read

March 26, 2023 - 6:18PM

Previously suppressed documents have revealed the secret behind the world's most famous UFO photo. Picture: Supplied

Previously suppressed documents have revealed the secret behind the world's most famous UFO photo. Picture: Supplied

A former defence intelligence officer has revealed the secret behind the "world's best" UFO photo, claiming the massive, diamond-shaped vehicle captured in the image was a top secret US aircraft.

The incredible image, known as "The Calvin Photograph", shows a huge angular shape hovering over the landscape with a Harrier fighter jet visible in the distance.

It was taken near its namesake, Calvin, a tiny town in central Scotland. The picture was for decades considered a modern myth until it was finally rediscovered and released to the public in August 2022.

The photo – which appeared exactly as had been described by those who had seen it – was found in the hands of a former RAF press officer by a team led by academic and journalist David Clarke.

But while the photo, often has hailed as the "best ever UFO photo", was found, the mystery still remains. What exactly was the object in the picture, and who took it?

Now, Dr Clarke has told The Sun what his years-long investigation into the UFO has uncovered.

The legendary Calvin Photograph showing a UFO and a warplane has been revealed after 30 years

The legendary Calvin Photograph showing a UFO and a warplane has been revealed after 30 years

'Strongest theory' on secret behind Calvin photograph

Dr Clarke revealed to The Sun that his team has its strongest lead on the photograph to date. They believe the object may have been a piece of top secret and experimental US technology.

This is based on the testimony of a former UK Defence Intelligence officer who revealed, unprompted, that he was tasked with investigating the incident at Calvin.

The defence official, whose credentials were verified by Dr Clarke and his team, explained the UFO was believed to have been a "target designation companion" for F-117 Nighthawk stealth bombers.

The so-called "Calvin Vehicle" was understood to have been unmanned, very large and equipped with a high tech ground-mapping laser.

It was estimated to be between 100ft and 130ft long (30-40m) according to photo analysis by Sheffield Hallam University.

However, it's not immediately clear the exact nature of the vehicle.

The official, who declined to be named, said it was a "one-in-a-million" chance that the craft was caught on camera – and even flew to Scotland and interviewed the two men who took the original photograph back in August 1990.

He added there was "a hell of a stink" in Washington over the snaps when they were passed up the chain of command and the Americans "went ballistic".

The "Calvin Vehicle" is understood to have been deployed from the US facility at RAF Machrihanish.

It was spotted and photographed just two days after Saddam Hussein's forces invaded Kuwait, sparking the first Gulf War.

RAF Machrihanish is a highly isolated base on the tip of Kintyre peninsula, has a 10,000ft long runway, and was an emergency landing site for the space shuttle.

In the 1960s, the base was titled Naval Aviation Weapons Facility Machrihanish, designed to store "classified weapons". US forces moved out of the base in 1995.

Redacted documents appearing to remove two

Redacted documents appearing to remove two "Black Project" vehicles from the UK's report into UFOs

Photos from the Black Project section were also removed

Photos from the Black Project section were also removed

Calvine Photograph linked to numerous other UFO sightings

Numerous reports from the period have RAF Machrihanish at centre of various odd occurrences, such as high speed radar blips and "unusual ear-splitting jet noises" heard in the area.

Dr Clarke revealed it was this intelligence official's testimony that reignited his interest in the case and triggered his investigation that led to the rediscovery of the photo.

"I was not expecting [the officer] to mention it and I had not intended to ask him about it," Dr Clarke told The Sun.

"The photographs and sighting weren't on my list of questions.

"I had arranged to speak to him about the time he spent investigating UFOs for British military intelligence and I simply asked 'was there any particular incident or sighting that stuck in your mind as being inexplicable or out of the ordinary' and he just said 'yes'."

Dr Clarke went on: "He said it was a one in a million chance. When he dropped this out I was stunned.

"It was obvious he was talking about the Calvine images."

The officer also alleged the Calvine Vehicle was likely linked to the so-called Belgian UFO Wave from November 1989 to April 1990.

Many witnesses reported seeing a large triangular or diamond shaped object flying at low altitude. Two F-16 fighter aircraft were even dispatched to intercept one of the shapes.

Some claimed to have witnessed the shapes firing "lasers" at the ground, which would appear to match up with the account from the source of Calvine Vehicle being a target finding tool.

MoD documents show how they wanted to respond to the photo back in 1990

MoD documents show how they wanted to respond to the photo back in 1990

Declassified defence report provides yet more clues

Dr Clarke uncovered yet more compelling circumstantial evidence contained with a declassified version of Ministry of Defence's 463-page, four volume UFO report "Condign".

Within the report is a section talking about Western "black projects" – which includes the SR-71 stealth fighter, a Mach 3 recon plane that was originally top secret before being made public by the US.

Alongside this section are two heavily redacted sections and two redacted photos.

The MoD has declined to release the unredacted version of the report, stating it was "accidentally destroyed".

The black projects are discussed in relation to UAP (unidentified aerial phenomena) events – a term now commonly used in Washington amid the latest spate of UFO sightings in the US.

"I am confident those images are photographs of a still-top secret US reconnaissance aircraft, possibly the one photographed in Scotland," Dr Clarke told The Sun.

Meanwhile, the investigators obtained a redacted document which makes mention of a D-notice – an official request to media outlets not to publish a story due to national security concerns.

It also makes reference to "the remaining ASTRA/AURORA" photos. The Aurora was a long rumoured hypersonic US spy plane which is also claimed to have been spotted around the UK in the 90s.

Declassified documents which appear to confirm the MoD cracking down on sightings of secret US tech

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US patents filed several years after the Calvin incident have an interesting similarity to the object seen in Scotland

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Matthew Illsley, another investigator working with Dr Clarke, told The Sun: "Of course, we don't know if this was related to Calvin or to some other event.

"But it does lend credence to the idea that secret photos, D-notices and black project aircraft that no one publicly knows about or officially admits to do in fact exist."

Further fuelling the idea the Calvin Vehicle may have been a piece of experimental US tech is a patent filed by aerospace engine Salvatore Cezar Pais.

Mr Pais, who currently works for the US Space Force, has filed a number of patents while working for the US Department of the Navy for highly experimental and often almost sci-fi aircraft and propulsion systems.

One of his many granted patents shows a diamond shaped aircraft apparently propelled by microwaves.

His patents are not just works of fancy. The chief technology officer of the US Naval Aviation Enterprise James Sheey once wrote to the US Patent Office in support of Mr Pais' work and insisting "China is already investing significantly in this area".

Kevin Russell's name appears on the back of the UFO photo. Dr Clark is trying to track him down.

Kevin Russell's name appears on the back of the UFO photo. Dr Clark is trying to track him down.

History of the Calvin Photograph

The Calvin Photo was snapped near its namesake Calvin, a small town in central Scotland.

It is claimed two men stumbled across the jaw dropping scene while hiking or hunting, witnessing the large metallic object as fighter jets made passes in the distance before it shot off into the sky, never to be seen again.

Luckily, they seemed to capture the moment on camera, snapping six photographs of the diamond shaped craft with a fighter plane in the background.

The photos were then given to the Scotland's Daily Record newspaper who in

turn passed them to the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

For unknown reasons the story was never published and the photos vanished into the black hole of Whitehall, and so began the modern myth of the "Calvine Photograph".

Five of the other photos taken that night remain lost, one of which reportedly shows the two men posing with the shape in the background.

It is understood the aircraft in the background at Harrier jump jets, which were used by both the US and UK.

Photo analysis undertaken by senior lecturer Andrew Robinson at Sheffield Hallam University indicated the photo was unaltered.

In an extensive 11-page study, he concluded that if the object is a fake, it would have had to be hoax staged in front of the camera.

"The image shows no evidence of negative or print based manipulation and all visible signs suggest this is a genuine photograph of the scene before the camera," Mr Robinson wrote.

Dr David Clarke, right, tracked down former RAF press officer Craig Lindsay.

Picture: UAP Media UK

Dr David Clarke, right, tracked down former RAF press officer Craig Lindsay.

Picture: UAP Media UK

Researchers call for final piece of the puzzle

Dr Clarke believes his team is very close to solving the mystery, but they need a few final clues.

"I think we are as close as it is possible for anyone to be," he told The Sun.

"But as my source said, the authorities have been 'very clever' with this one and have gone to great lengths to ensure the truth is, annoyingly, still out there.

"They claim to have no records on the photographs other than the sparse papers released in 2009.

"This is patent nonsense as the photographs were, I am told by another intelligence source, classified secret and were the subject of a meeting held in Washington DC in 1992 attended by US and British intelligence.

"I am confident there is a substantial file on the case that contains both copy negatives and detailed analysis of the images."

He went on: "Given the secrecy that surrounds the story it is no surprise that the photographer and his friend have 'disappeared'.

"I feel sure they will be aware of the most recent publicity surrounding the photographs but, for whatever reason, continue to prefer to say nothing.

"If the photos are a 'spoof' or a hoax, as many have claimed, this seems a strange state of affairs.

More Coverage

US confirms hundreds of UFO reports

US confirms hundreds of UFO reports

'World's best' UFO image seen for first time

'World's best' UFO image seen for first time

"At the very least the photographer owns copyright on the images and deserves to be properly acknowledged as their creator."

Dr Clarke said he was releasing the bombshell account as his team continues to search for the photographer who took the famous photo. They are urging anyone with information about the man named "Kevin Russell", whose name appears handwritten on the back of the original print of the photo, to come forward.

Dr Clarke hopes Kevin is the final piece of the puzzle.

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Sea Navies U.S. Navy

The Navy Finally Speaks Up About Its Bizarre "UFO Patent" Experiments

The Naval Air Warfare Center has finally given a statement to The War Zone about the patents and experiments of Dr. Salvatore Pais.

Brett Tingley

Updated Feb 1, 2021 8:55 PM EST

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After reporting on the bizarre saga of the Navy's "UFO" patents by Dr. Salvatore Pais for over a year and a half, The War Zone has finally gotten an on-the-record comment from the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division, or NAWCAD, about the scientist's seemingly out-of-this-world work and the service's equally strange outright support of it.

As we reported in our last piece, the science and technology branches of the Naval Aviation Enterprise and NAWCAD took the theories of Dr. Pais seriously enough not just to vouch for them at the highest levels to patent examiners, asserting Chinese advances in similar areas of research and that they were 'operable' in nature, but to also subsequently invest a significant amount of money and time into researching the so-called "Pais Effect." This is a theoretical concept for generating high-intensity electromagnetic fields that could supposedly lead to hypothetical breakthroughs in power generation and advanced propulsion. Specifically, the Navy has now responded to inquiries related to the new documentation we uncovered in our most recent report that shows hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent on Pais's High Energy Electromagnetic Field Generator (HEEMFG) experiments, along with other details related to it.

message-editor%2F1611949323087-darpanasaafrcollaborationfy2018.jpg

An overview of Pais's high-energy electromagnetic field generator concept., DON via FOIA

Timothy Boulay, Communications Director at NAWCAD, confirmed several points to The War Zone by email:

- The High Energy Electromagnetic Field Generator testing occurred from October 2016 through September 2019;
- The cost was \$508,000 over the course of three years. Around ninety percent of the total - \$462,000 - was for salaries, while the rest was used for equipment, test preparation, testing and assessment.
- When NAWCAD concluded testing in September 2019, the "Pais Effect" could not be proven.
- No further research has been conducted, and the project has not transitioned to any other government or civilian organization.

While we greatly appreciate the response to our queries, it remains unclear why NAWCAD was unwilling to speak with us until now if they knew all along these experiments resulted in what appears to be a scientific dead-end that resulted in no verification of any of Pais's theories.

In addition to the statements above, Boulay added the following about the inventor of the Navy's "UFO patents":

The latest on Dr. Pais: you might remember that he left NAWCAD in June 2019 and moved to the Navy's Strategic Systems Programs organization. I found that he transferred to the U.S. Air Force this month.

We are still working with NAWCAD to determine where Pais was transferred within the research organizations of the USAF. Pais's first move from NAWCAD to Navy Strategic Systems Programs (SSP) office was somewhat interesting given that one of Pais's most eyebrow-raising patents was for a "hybrid aerospace-underwater craft." SSP oversees the development and sustainment of the Navy's nuclear-armed submarine-launched ballistic missiles.

message-editor%2F1611949406865-hybridaerospaceunderwatercraft.jpg

Pais's hybrid-underwater-aerospace craft concept., USPTO

This statement from NAWCAD also raises a few questions about why these experiments were funded and supported so extensively by high-ranking scientists within the organization in the first place. Despite every physicist we have spoken to over the better part of two years asserting that the "Pais Effect" has no scientific basis in reality and the patents related to it were filled with pseudo-scientific jargon, NAWCAD confirmed they were interested enough in the patents to spend more than a half-million dollars over three years developing experiments and equipment to test Pais' theories.

Despite the fact that NAWCAD says the experiments ended in September 2019 without proving the "Pais Effect," the inventor asserted to The War Zone in a November 18, 2019 email that his work "culminates in the enablement of the Pais Effect" and that "as far as the doubting SMEs [Subject Matter Experts] are concerned, my work shall be proven correct one fine day..."

So, as it sits now, the Navy has finally chimed in that its latest little adventure into weird science has ended, at least as far as the seagoing service is concerned. Yet the bizarre secrecy surrounding this entire endeavor that has occurred after the Navy filed the patents publicly remains remarkably odd. Not until we actually got the images, data, and slides about the program of record that attempted to prove Pais' theories did they chime in to confirm its demise. We may never know why this was the case, although some will claim this was a misadventure in scientific research and fiscal misappropriation, to begin with.

This has been a wild ride, and we can't say for sure if it's come to an end just yet. But regardless, this is where it sits for the time being.

Below are the results of our Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests for documentation related to the Naval Innovative Science and Engineering - Basic & Applied Research Program under the project name "The High Energy Electromagnetic Field Generator (HEEMFG)", broken into five parts here: Part 1, Part 2, Part 3, Part 4, and Part 5. We have removed only Pais's academic publications, to avoid copyright issues with their publishers, as well as Pais's patent documents which can already be found online.

Contact the author: Brett@TheDrive.com

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RedCupcake

2 February, 2021

The U.S. Government got a great deal. They knew it was a very long shot but if it did, the "effect" would be the basis for a whole new set of technologies.

More realistically they knew it likely would not work - which means that for a paltry \$509,000, they bought a scientific disinformation project...See more

Reply

12

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Steve (pithy and insufferable)

2 February, 2021

True. DARPA funds ideas like this all the time. Cheap for the possible though doubtful return. The Government funds most basic research in the country. Less pointed towards profits, you get more off-the-wall ideas.

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1

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rcms1954

2 February, 2021

So \$462,000 was spent on salaries, and \$46,000 was spent on equipment, testing, and assessment of the experiment? The amount spent on equipment, testing, and assessment is certainly not unreasonable; but I'm very curious and to who exactly was paid the salary amount. Was Dr. Pais the only one recei...See more

Reply

13

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AussieA

2 February, 2021

In regards to costs: I would surmise that that wages, salaries, and assets are allocated under a project basis.

So simple assumptions are probably useless without more information, of which the whole article is lacking.

One thing I do know, is departments everywhere are high protective of their budg...See more

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6

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Joseph Mitzen

1 February, 2021

While we greatly appreciate the response to our queries, it remains unclear why NAWCAD was unwilling to speak with us until now if they knew all along these experiments resulted in what appears to be a scientific dead-end that resulted in no verification of any of Pais's theories.

The last half of y...See more

Reply

12

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BlueDice

2 February, 2021

[O/T] FAREWELL CAPTAIN TOM

https://youtu.be/619-_C9gGAY

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Captain Sir Tom Moore: 1920-2021

Reply

13

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BrizzIe

2 February, 2021

is that the walking dude? RIP either way, old dude.

Reply

5

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Spooky77

2 February, 2021

Agree on the snake oil, but why include a reference to Chinese efforts in the patent application? Has that become a boilerplate phrase to move shaky research projects?

Using "Chinese advances" seems like a desperate and unnecessary justification.

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3

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Joseph Trevithick, Howard Altman

President Donald Trump has rolled out plans for new Trump class warships for the U.S. Navy.

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Kardar-Parisi-Zhang universality in the phase distributions of one-dimensional exciton-polaritons
Davide Squizzato, Léonie Canet, and Anna Minguzzi

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Exciton-polaritons under driven-dissipative conditions exhibit a condensation transition that belongs to a different universality class from that of equilibrium Bose-Einstein condensates. By numerically solving the generalized Gross-Pitaevskii equation with realistic experimental parameters, we show that one-dimensional exciton-polaritons display fine features of Kardar-Parisi-Zhang (KPZ) dynamics. Beyond the scaling exponents, we show that their phase distribution follows the Tracy-Widom form predicted for KPZ growing interfaces. We moreover evidence a crossover to the stationary Baik-Rains statistics. We finally show that these features are unaffected on a certain timescale by the presence of a smooth disorder often present in experimental setups.

Physics Subject Headings (PhySH)

Exciton polariton

Nonequilibrium statistical mechanics

Kardar-Parisi-Zhang equation

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Kardar-Parisi-Zhang universality in discrete two-dimensional driven-dissipative exciton polariton condensates

Konstantinos Deligiannis

1, Quentin Fontaine², Davide Squizzato^{1,3,4}, Maxime Richard

5, Sylvain Ravets², Jacqueline Bloch², Anna Minguzzi

1, and Léonie Canet

1,6

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Abstract

The statistics of the fluctuations of quantum many-body systems are highly revealing of their nature. In driven-dissipative systems displaying macroscopic quantum coherence, as exciton polariton condensates under incoherent pumping, the phase dynamics can be mapped to the stochastic Kardar-Parisi-Zhang (KPZ) equation. However, it was argued theoretically that in two dimensions the KPZ regime may be hindered by the presence of vortices, and a nonequilibrium Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless behavior was reported close to the condensation threshold. We demonstrate here that, when a discretized two-dimensional (2D) polariton system is considered, universal KPZ properties can emerge. We support our analysis by extensive numerical simulations of the discrete stochastic generalized Gross-Pitaevskii equation. We show that the first-order correlation function of the condensate exhibits stretched exponential behaviors in space and time with critical exponents characteristic of the 2D KPZ universality class and find that the related scaling function accurately matches the KPZ theoretical one, stemming from functional renormalization group. We also obtain the distribution of the phase fluctuations and find that it is non-Gaussian, as expected for a KPZ stochastic process.

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 7

See 1 more figures

Physics Subject Headings (PhySH)

Exciton polariton

Nonequilibrium systems
Polariton condensate
Kardar-Parisi-Zhang equation
Article Text

I. INTRODUCTION

Scale invariance and universality are the most striking features revealed by the study of equilibrium continuous phase transitions. They refer to the fact that in the vicinity of a critical point, systems of completely different nature can exhibit correlations in their order parameter fluctuations characterized by the same power law, with the same universal critical exponents.

The emergence of universality is well understood in systems at thermal equilibrium, but far less so out of equilibrium. In such systems, criticality can, for instance, emerge spontaneously during the time evolution of the system, a phenomenon known as self-organized criticality [1]. A paradigmatic example of this feature is the mechanism of kinetic roughening of a stochastically growing interface [2,3], for which the celebrated Kardar-Parisi-Zhang (KPZ) equation was originally derived [4]. It was realized later on that a strikingly large variety of systems actually belong to the KPZ universality class [5], such as switching fronts propagating in liquid crystals [6] or the development of modern urban skylines under building constraints [7].

Recently, KPZ universality was found in a surprising context: In the phase dynamics of driven-dissipative exciton polariton (polariton) condensates. Polaritons are nonequilibrium quasiparticles that form within semiconductor microcavities operating in the strong-coupling regime between bound electron-hole pairs (excitons) and cavity photons. Under nonresonant excitation, polaritons can spontaneously condense into a macroscopic coherent state [8-10]. In this state, the microscopic model describing the dynamics of the condensate phase has been shown to map onto the KPZ equation [11-13]. This has far-reaching conceptual implications, as it shows that the nature of a polariton condensate is very different from its thermal equilibrium counterpart. Kardar-Parisi-Zhang universality was confirmed numerically in a one-dimensional (1D) polariton condensate, both in terms of scaling of spatiotemporal correlations [14] and in terms of the phase fluctuation statistics [15,16]. In a polariton condensate, in contrast with more usual KPZ interfaces, space-time vortices can emerge stochastically due to the intrinsic

2

π

periodicity of the phase [17]. However, KPZ dynamics can coexist with (and remain robust to) such defects. Indeed, KPZ scaling in a 1D polariton condensate has been reported experimentally [18], thus promoting polaritons as a compelling experimental platform to probe KPZ universality.

In two dimensions, far fewer results have been obtained for the KPZ equation: No exact result is available and mainly functional renormalization group calculations [19-22] and numerical simulations [23-39] have provided quantitative information. Experimentally, polaritons offer a unique opportunity to investigate KPZ physics, as they are well suited to form a two-dimensional condensate. The dynamics of its phase in two dimensions enables the study of the 2D KPZ universality class releasing the stringent requirement of realizing a growing surface embedded in a three-dimensional physical space. In this work we address theoretically and numerically the emergence of KPZ physics in a nonresonantly driven discrete 2D polariton condensate. Our work is complementary to the studies on coherent excitations [40-42], the optical parametric oscillator [43], and the quadratic driving scheme [44], where the possibility of observing KPZ-like behavior was highlighted. All of the above correspond to different models with respect to the one considered here.

In two dimensions, equilibrium bosonic quantum fluids undergo the Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless (BKT) transition stemming from vortex-antivortex unbinding. Owing to the driven-dissipative nature of polaritons, the behavior of vortices is different: The attractive vortex-antivortex interaction is, for instance, dramatically damped at large distances and can even change sign to become

repulsive [45,46], hindering their annihilation. In some specific nonequilibrium conditions, the vortex motion can also be self-accelerated, leading to the creation of additional vortex pairs [45,46]. The role of vortex unbinding in driven-dissipative condensates has also been studied using the duality with a theory for nonlinear electrodynamics coupled to charges [47,48]. Thus, vortex-filled phases are also present in nonequilibrium systems and could be detrimental to the emergence of KPZ universality in two dimensions. This is supported by an argument based on perturbative renormalization group (RG), which suggests that the proliferation of vortices, which happens at spatial scale

L_v

, spoils KPZ stretched exponential decay of coherence characterized by a much longer length scale [13]. Moreover, several studies, based on both experiments and numerical simulations of 2D polariton condensates, have reported BKT-like types of behaviors, with specificities that are related to the nonequilibrium regime [49–53].

An important feature of this system is that the dimensionality of the parameter space is large such that a multitude of realistic regimes dominated by the KPZ universality could still exist. For example, the momentum-dependent loss rate of the polaritons plays an important role in the magnitude of the KPZ nonlinearity λ

and hence in the possibility of reaching a KPZ regime. Indeed, KPZ scaling of spatiotemporal correlation functions were then found in some region of the parameter space, as well as vortex-free regimes [54]. However, this was obtained in the low-noise limit, while a realistic noise input is typically larger and fixed by the polariton pump and losses.

In this work we demonstrate the existence of a KPZ regime for the phase dynamics of polariton condensates in two dimensions, using, for most parameters, values that can be realistically achieved in experiments. We show that in this regime, the proliferation of topological defects such as spatial or spatiotemporal vortices can be limited by acting on the pump strength and by introducing a cutoff length scale via discretization of space due to the introduction of a lattice potential. Polariton lattices are routinely created in semiconductor microcavities (see eg [55] for a review). We obtain the KPZ scaling in the spatiotemporal correlation function of the condensate wave function. This scaling is robust against some variations of the pump and of the lattice spacing. Furthermore, we compare the obtained scaling function with the one predicted for KPZ equation by functional renormalization group approaches, finding excellent agreement. Finally, we provide compelling evidence for the 2D KPZ universality via the analysis of the fluctuations of the condensate phase. We compute the probability distribution function of the phase fluctuations and show that it accurately matches the one obtained from large-scale numerical simulations of 2D KPZ systems [38,39,56].

The paper is organized as follows. The model studied, which is the generalized stochastic Gross-Pitaevskii equation for the dynamics of the condensate wave function, is introduced in Sec. II. We recall the mapping from this equation to the KPZ equation in Sec. III and review the universal properties of the KPZ equation in two dimensions in Sec. IV. We describe the numerical simulations we performed and we develop an analysis of the purely spatial and spatiotemporal vortices in Sec. V. We present our results for the spatiotemporal correlation function in Sec. VI and our results for the distribution of the phase fluctuations in Sec. VII. We summarize and present prospective work in Sec. VIII.

II. MODEL FOR THE POLARITON CONDENSATE DYNAMICS

The condensate wave function is described in two dimensions by a classical field

$\psi \equiv \psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$

ρ
 ρ
 ρ
 at time
 t
 and position
 $\mathbf{r}$
 $=$
 $($
 x
 $,$
 y
 $)$
 . The condensate is populated through an incoherent excitonic reservoir of density
 n
 ρ
 $($
 t
 $,$
 $\mathbf{r}$
 $)$
 , which is continuously driven by an external pump at a rate
 P
 . The reservoir density decays into the condensate via stimulated relaxation at rate
 R
 $|$
 ψ
 $|$
 2
 and into other modes at rate
 γ
 ρ
 . Under the assumption that the timescales for the reservoir and condensate dynamics are very different, the rate equation for the reservoir can be integrated out, which leads to the generalized stochastic Gross-Pitaevskii equation for the condensate [57,58]

$$i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V(\mathbf{r}) - i\hbar\gamma \right] \psi$$

$$+ \frac{g^2}{2} \frac{|\psi|^2}{n_s} + \frac{i\hbar}{2} \frac{|\psi|^2}{n_s} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{g^2}{n_s} |\psi|^2 + \frac{\hbar}{2} \xi$$

(1)

where

m is the polariton effective mass,

V_ℓ is the lattice potential,

g is the polariton-polariton interaction strength,

g_r is the repulsive interaction with excitons from the reservoir,

n_s

$$= \frac{Y_r}{R}, \text{ and}$$

$$p = \frac{P_R}{Y_L},$$

$$\theta_r = \frac{P}{P_{th}}$$

, with

$$p_{th}$$

the threshold pump rate for condensation. We consider a k -dependent loss rate of polaritons

$$Y_L(k) =$$

$$Y_L,$$

$$\theta +$$

$$k^2$$

$$Y_L,$$

$$2,$$

, where

$$k$$

is the polariton in-plane momentum [18,59]. Such a momentum dependence is equivalently introduced via a frequency-selective pump in the literature [52,60,61]. The noise

$$\xi$$

is a complex variable with zero-mean value, covariance

$$\langle$$

$$\xi$$

$$($$

$$t$$

$$,$$

$$r$$

$$)$$

$$\xi$$

$*$

$$($$

$$t$$

$$,$$

. Under the assumption that the density fluctuations

$$\delta n(t, \mathbf{r}) = n(t, \mathbf{r}) - \langle n \rangle$$

are sufficiently smooth

$$\nabla \delta n \approx 0$$

and stationary

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \delta n \approx 0$$

, one obtains for the phase dynamics the KPZ equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \theta = v \nabla^2 \theta + \lambda \left(\nabla \theta \right)^2 + D \eta$$

(2)

where the noise

η is real and has zero mean and covariance

$$\langle \eta(t, \mathbf{r})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \eta(t, r) \\
 & = \delta(r - r_0) \\
 & \delta(t - t_0) \\
 & \cdot \frac{v}{v_l} \\
 & \cdot \frac{2}{2 + \frac{a\hbar}{2m}} \\
 & \cdot \frac{\lambda}{- \frac{\hbar}{m} + a y_l} \\
 & \cdot \frac{2}{2} \text{, and} \\
 & D = \sigma(1 + \frac{a}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

The KPZ parameters are determined by the microscopic parameters of Eq. (1) as

of a condensate in

D

$=$

2

spatial dimensions to an interface of internal dimension 2 in a

d

$=$

2

$+$

1

space. It holds in any dimension provided the previous assumptions are fulfilled. Second, another fundamental difference lies in the compactness of the phase, which is periodically defined

θ

$\in$

$($

$-$

π

$,$

π

$]$

, whereas the height of an interface is an unbounded field

h

$\in$

$($

$-$

∞

$,$

∞

$)$

. This implies that the phase field can feature topological defects, such as phase jumps or vortices, as already mentioned. While a compact version of the KPZ equation turns out to be relevant in some systems such as driven vortex lattices in disordered superconductors [62] or polar active smectic phases [63], we show that the behavior of the phase in the regime studied in this work belongs to the noncompact KPZ universality class, as it involves only a few sporadic vortices and the condensate phase can be uniquely unwound. As a third remark we mention that several works introduce some anisotropy in the polariton effective mass

$($

m

$\parallel$

$,$

m

$\perp$

$)$

, which leads through a similar mapping to the anisotropic extension of the KPZ equation [13]. However, as long as

m

$\parallel$

and

m

$\perp$

have the same sign, the anisotropy is irrelevant in the renormalization group sense and the universal properties of the anisotropic KPZ dynamics are controlled by the isotropic fixed point. When they have opposite sign, the nonlinearity

g

KPZ

$=$

λ

2

D

$/$

v
3

becomes irrelevant and the effective properties of the system are governed by the anisotropic Edwards-Wilkinson (Gaussian) fixed point [21,64,65]. Since we are interested in the nonlinear KPZ regime, we do not include any anisotropy and consider an isotropic polariton dispersion relation.

IV. KPZ EQUATION IN TWO DIMENSIONS

While a wealth of exact results have been obtained for the KPZ equation in one dimension, no exact results are available in two dimensions, except the exact exponent relation

$$\chi + \frac{z}{2} = 2$$

, which stems from the statistical tilt symmetry of the KPZ equation and holds in all dimensions. The universal properties of the KPZ equation in two dimensions have been thoroughly studied using numerical simulations of discrete models belonging to the KPZ universality class (see, e.g., Refs. [23-35]) or of the KPZ equation itself (e.g., Refs. [36,37,66-68]). The most precise estimates yield a roughness exponent

$$\chi \approx 0.39$$
,

$$\frac{z}{2} = 2 -$$

$$\chi \approx 1.61$$

, and thus a growth exponent

$$\beta =$$

$$\frac{\chi}{z}$$

$$\approx$$

0.24

(we recall that in one dimension, one has

$$\chi =$$

1

$$\frac{1}{2}$$

and

$$\beta =$$

$$\frac{1}{3}$$

). The probability distribution of height fluctuations has also been computed numerically in Refs. [38,39,56], which suggest the existence of different universality subclasses, associated with different global geometries of the growth, as in one dimension (discussed below).

On the analytical side, the KPZ phase is described by a genuinely strong-coupling fixed point in

$$D \geq 2$$

. Indeed, it was shown in [69] that the perturbative RG flow equation for the KPZ coupling

g_{KPZ}

can be resummed exactly, yielding an expression valid to all orders in perturbation theory in the vicinity of two dimensions. However, this expression fails to capture the strong-coupling KPZ fixed point, yielding instead a runaway flow to infinity. Hence, we emphasize that one cannot extract any quantitative information about the KPZ fixed point in two dimensions or higher dimensions from the perturbative flow equation.

A nonperturbative RG calculation was devised using functional renormalization group in Refs. [19,20,70], which allows accessing the strong-coupling KPZ fixed point in all dimensions. It shows that the KPZ fixed point is not connected to the Gaussian Edwards-Wilkinson fixed point in any dimension, which explains the failure of perturbation theory, even resummed at all orders. The KPZ universal scaling function

F in two dimensions was calculated in [20] and will serve as our theoretical reference. It is defined as

$$C(\Delta t, r) = C_0 \frac{\beta F(y_0 | \Delta t, r)}{\Delta t^{1/2}}, \quad (3)$$

where

C is the two-point connected correlation function

$$C(\Delta t, r) = \langle$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & h \\
 & (\\
 & t \\
 & + \\
 & \Delta \\
 & t \\
 & , \\
 & r \\
 & + \\
 & \Delta \\
 & r \\
 &) \\
 & h \\
 & (\\
 & t \\
 & , \\
 & r \\
 &) \\
 & \rangle \\
 & - \\
 & \langle \\
 & h \\
 & (\\
 & t \\
 & + \\
 & \Delta \\
 & t \\
 & , \\
 & r \\
 & + \\
 & \Delta \\
 & r \\
 &) \\
 & \rangle \\
 & \langle \\
 & h \\
 & (\\
 & t \\
 & , \\
 & r \\
 &) \\
 & \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

(4)
and

C
0

and

y
0

are nonuniversal normalization constants. The scaling function has the asymptotics

$$\begin{aligned}
 & F \\
 & (\\
 & y \\
 &) \\
 & \rightarrow \\
 & y \\
 & \rightarrow \\
 & 0 \\
 & F \\
 & 0 \\
 & , \\
 & F
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(\frac{y}{\hbar} \right) \\
 & \sim \frac{y}{\hbar} \\
 & \rightarrow \frac{\infty}{F} \\
 & \frac{\infty}{y^2} \\
 & \chi \\
 & , \\
 & (5) \\
 & \text{where} \\
 & F \\
 & 0 \\
 & \text{and} \\
 & F \\
 & \infty
 \end{aligned}$$

are constants given in Appendix C.

V. NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS AND ANALYSIS OF VORTICES

In the deep lattice regime, we solve a discretized version of Eq. (1) (see Appendix A for derivation and details)

$$\begin{aligned}
 & i \\
 & \hbar \\
 & \partial \\
 & t \\
 & \psi \\
 & j \\
 & = \\
 & - \\
 & K \\
 & (\\
 & \psi \\
 & j \\
 & x \\
 & + \\
 & 1 \\
 & , \\
 & j \\
 & y \\
 & + \\
 & \psi \\
 & j \\
 & x \\
 & - \\
 & 1 \\
 & , \\
 & j \\
 & y \\
 & + \\
 & \psi \\
 & j \\
 & x \\
 & , \\
 & j \\
 & y \\
 & + \\
 & 1 \\
 & + \\
 & \psi
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\psi_j^2 + \frac{\hbar^2}{4m^2} \left(\frac{\partial \psi_j}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right) \right) \quad (6)$$

We numerically integrate the generalized Gross-Pitaevskii equation (GGPE) (6) using a split-step procedure for each noise realization (see Appendix A for details). We use a 2D

$N \times N$ lattice grid with spatial spacing

$$d_x = 2.83$$

μm , with

$$N = 64$$

for the analysis of the correlation functions and

$$N = 32, 64$$

,
128

for the study of the fluctuations distribution. In [18], where KPZ scaling was observed in a 1D lattice, the full dispersion of the system was approximated in the simulations by a parabolic dispersion, which provided a very accurate description. In two dimensions, we also approximate the dispersion of the lattice model (e.g., a cosine dispersion in the tight-binding regime) with a parabolic one. Indeed, the two dispersions are equivalent in the vicinity of

k
 $=$
 0

and differ only at large
 k

. Thus, we expect the difference between the two to occur mainly at small spatial scales, which lie below the ones relevant for KPZ dynamics and which are not of direct interest in this study. We choose the following parameters:

Effective mass

m
 $*$

$=$
 8
 $\times$
 10

$-$
 5
 m
 e

, where

m
 e

is the mass of the electron, corresponding to

R_e
 K

$/$
 $\hbar$

$=$
 0.72

ps
 $-$

1
 $;$

y
 l

$,$
 0

$=$
 0.31

ps
 $-$

1
 $;$

y
 r

$=$
 y

l
 $,$

0
 $/$

10
 $;$ and

y
 l

$,$

μ
 m
 2
 ps
 $-$
 1
 , yielding
 Im
 K
 $/$
 $\hbar$
 $=$
 0.05
 ps
 $-$
 1
 . We note that the value of
 γ
 l
 $/$
 0
 corresponds to a polariton lifetime
 τ
 $=$
 3.2
 ps
 , which is much too fast for significant equilibration to take place.
 Furthermore, we consider a noninteracting system with
 g
 $=$
 0
 , since this turned out to be a good description of the 1D experiment. We note
 that the presence of polariton-polariton (g
 $)$ and polariton-reservoir (g
 r
 $)$ interactions are not fundamental for the existence of a KPZ regime, since the
 mapping still holds for
 g
 $=$
 g
 r
 $=$
 0
 . In fact, the study reported in Ref. [54] suggests that the development of the
 KPZ regime is favored by weak interactions. To further reduce the parameter
 space to explore, we also set
 g
 r
 $=$
 0
 , although we stress that in order to faithfully model the experimental
 conditions one should take a nonzero value for this term. The saturation density
 is fixed at
 N
 s
 $=$
 120
 . The numerical integration is performed with a time step of
 d

t
 $=$
 0.16
 μs
 to study the scaling and down to
 d
 t
 $=$
 0.0016
 μs
 to study the statistics of the fluctuations. This finer time discretization ensures that the phase can be uniquely unwrapped in time

θ
 $($
 t
 $,$
 r
 $)$
 $\in$
 $($
 $-\pi$
 $,$
 π
 $]$
 $\rightarrow$
 $($
 $-\infty$
 $,$
 ∞
 $)$
 . The phase is unwrapped at a fixed space point by constraining the phase difference between two consecutive times to be less than

$2\pi\zeta$
 . In practice, we choose
 ζ
 not exactly one but
 ζ
 $\approx$
 1
 due to the final time resolution. This procedure is robust as long as
 ζ
 is typically greater than 0.5.

In order to tentatively locate the KPZ regime, we first investigate the density of topological defects, which are either purely spatial vortices in the

$($
 x
 $,$
 y
 $)$
 plane or space-time vortices which have a nonvanishing projection of their vorticity in the

$($
 t
 $,$
 x
 $)$
 and/or
 $($
 t

,
y
)
planes. The latter were shown to play an important role in one dimension
[17,18]. Keeping the other parameters fixed, we vary the reduced pump
p
from low
p
 $\approx$
1
(close to threshold) to moderately high
p
=
2
. For each value of
p
, we determine the density of purely spatial and space-time vortices in the
stationary state, which is shown in Fig. 1, with typical phase configurations in
the
(
x
,
y
)
plane [similar maps are obtained in the
(
t
,
x
)
and
(
t
,
y
)
planes]. The numerical procedure to detect the vortices and compute their
density is detailed in Appendix A. We find that the number of vortices
drastically decreases when increasing the pump power, and for
p
 $\geq$
1.6
, very few spatial vortices are present, in agreement with Ref. [52], and also
very few space-time vortices. Both appear only by pairs of closely located
vortices and antivortices. We hence focus in the following on the highest value
of the pump
p
=
2
, which appears as more favorable for observing KPZ dynamics. We show in
Appendix B that the KPZ regime is robust, to a certain extent, against
decreasing the pump power.

FIG. 1.

Density of purely spatial and space-time vortices as a function of the pump
power

p
, with typical phase configurations in the
(
x
,
y
)

plane (vortex, green; antivortex, red) shown for

p

$=$

1.2

(left) and

p

$=$

1.8

(right) for a grid spacing of

d

x

$=$

2.83

μ

m

.

The presence of topological defects turns out to be also sensitive to the discreteness of space, and we find that the presence of a lattice (of spacing

d

x

) is favorable to the observation of the KPZ regime since the density of such defects is suppressed when increasing the grid spacing

d

x

, as shown in Fig. 2. For

d

x

$\geq$

1

μ

m

, the emergence of space-time vortices is rare and very short lived. In the following, we choose

d

x

$=$

2.83

μ

m

, which is close to the spacing in experimental micropillar lattices [18]. For this value, the fraction of both spatial and space-time vortices is below

10^{-3}

and does not spoil the KPZ universal properties. Moreover, the core size of the

spatial vortices was observed to be very narrow, of the order of the lattice

spacing.

FIG. 2.

Density of purely spatial and space-time vortices as a function of the lattice spacing, with typical phase configurations in the

(

t

,

y

)

plane (vortex, green; antivortex, red) shown for grid spacings of

d

x

$=$

0.71

μ

m
 (left) and
 d
 x
 $=$
 1.41
 μ
 m
 (right), for a fixed pump power
 p
 $=$
 2
 $.$

VI. KPZ SCALING IN SPATIOTEMPORAL CORRELATION FUNCTIONS

Using our numerical simulations, we calculate the first-order correlation function

g
 1
 $,$
 ψ
 of the polariton condensate wave function, which is defined as

g
 1
 $,$
 ψ
 $($
 Δ
 t
 $,$
 Δ
 r
 $)$
 $=$
 $\langle$
 ψ
 $*$
 $($
 t
 0
 $,$
 r
 0
 $)$
 ψ
 $($
 t
 0
 $+$
 Δ
 t
 $,$
 r
 0
 $+$
 Δ
 r
 $)$
 $\rangle$
 $\langle$
 n
 $($
 t

$$\frac{\Delta r}{\langle e^{i\Delta\theta} \rangle}$$

, where

$$\Delta\theta \equiv \theta(t_0 + \Delta t, r_0 + \Delta r) - \theta(t_0, r_0)$$

. Upon performing a cumulant expansion of

$$g_1, \psi$$

to lowest order, we deduce that it is related to the connected correlation function

C of the phase as

$$-\frac{1}{2} \ln [g_1, \psi(\Delta t, \Delta r)]$$

$$| \langle [\Delta \theta]^2 \rangle - \langle \Delta \theta \rangle^2 \rangle$$

(8)
where
C

is the analog quantity as Eq. (4) for the interface. Note that

$$g_1, \psi$$

constitutes a reliable observable to access the scaling behavior of the phase only provided the three previous assumptions are verified. This is not guaranteed a priori and has to be assessed. It was shown to be the case in one dimension in the experimental conditions where the KPZ regime was evidenced [18]. They are also satisfied in our study, as shown in Appendix B.

We first study the equal-time and equal-space correlation functions. If the phase follows the KPZ dynamics, then according to Eqs. (3) and (5),

$$- \frac{2}{\ln |g_1|}, \psi(\Delta t = 0, \Delta r) \sim \Delta r^2$$

X
,
(9a)

—
2
ln
|
g
1

,
 ψ
(
 Δ
t
,
 Δ
r
=
0
)
|
~

Δ
t
2
 β

,
(9b)
with

X
 $\approx$
0.39
and
 β
 $\approx$
0.24

. We observe the expected scaling behavior in both space and time, as shown in Fig. 3. For temporal correlations, the KPZ scaling extends for time differences spanning over a decade, from

3
x
10
2
to
1.5
x
10
4
ps

, whereas for spatial correlations, the KPZ scaling is observed over a range from 10 to

40
 μ
m

. The limited space range is related to the relatively small size of our system, with a condensate of approximately

90
 μ
m

radius. Note that the polariton interaction with the reservoir

g
r

is here set to zero, but it is likely to play a role in the typical space scales and timescales where KPZ dynamics dominates, as observed in one dimension

[18].

FIG. 3.

(a) Equal-space and (b) equal-time correlation functions (blue solid lines) evaluated from

$$g_1, \psi$$

as explained in the text, compared with the KPZ scaling laws (black dashed lines). The numerical data follow the KPZ scaling for an extended range of time and space separations (indicated by the green shade). The local exponents, which are computed from Eqs. (10a) and (10b) are shown in the inset in both cases, together with their fits by a constant in the green region (green solid lines, labeled

$$\frac{2}{\beta_E P} \text{ and } \frac{2}{\chi_E P}$$

) and the values from KPZ numerical simulations (black dashed line, labeled $\frac{2}{\beta}$ and $\frac{2}{\chi}$).

Note that a running average has been used in order to smoothen the equal-space correlation function (a) before computing its derivative.

In order to provide a quantitative estimate of the critical exponents

$$\chi \text{ and } \beta$$

, we compute the local exponents, given by the logarithmic derivatives

$$\frac{d}{d \ln \Delta} \left[\frac{r}{\ln \left(\frac{g_1}{1} \right)} \right] = 0, \quad \frac{d}{d \ln \Delta} \left(\frac{r}{\psi} \right)$$

(
 Δ
 t
,
 Δ
 r
)

. For this, we first select the data lying within the scaling regime, indicated in the inset of Fig. 4. We then construct the scaling function

F
(
 y
)

defined in Eq. (3). The normalizations

C
 θ

and

y
 θ

are determined from fitting the equal-time and equal-space correlation functions with the power laws (9a) and (9b) in the appropriate ranges. Our results are shown in Fig. 4, together with the theoretical scaling function calculated from functional renormalization group. We observe a collapse of the data onto a single curve, which matches the theoretical one with excellent accuracy. This result shows that the phase of the two-dimensional polariton condensate follows a KPZ effective dynamics over extended length scales and timescales.

FIG. 4.

Universal scaling function

F
(
 y
)

from our numerical data (blue dots) and from the functional renormalization group calculation (black solid line). The inset shows the space-time map of

g
 1

,
 ψ

, with the red contour delimiting the scaling region where data are selected to construct

F
(
 y
)

.

VII. STATISTICAL PROPERTIES OF PHASE FLUCTUATIONS

We next compute the probability distribution of the fluctuations of the unwrapped phase

θ
 $\equiv$

θ
(
 t

,
 r

θ
)

at a fixed space point

r
 θ

. In order to discuss the 2D results, we first briefly summarize what is known for a 1D classical interface described by a height field

h
 $\tilde{h}$
 $\circ$
 $=$
 $($
 h
 $-$
 v
 ∞
 t
 $)$
 $/$
 $($
 Γ
 t
 $)$
 1
 $/$
 3
 $,$ with
 v
 ∞
and
 Γ

In this case, the distribution of the reduced height fluctuations defined as

h
 $\tilde{h}$
 $\circ$
 $=$
 $($
 h
 $-$
 v
 ∞
 t
 $)$
 $/$
 $($
 Γ
 t
 $)$
 1
 $/$
 3
 $,$ with
 v
 ∞
and
 Γ

nonuniversal parameters, is known exactly. In fact, the distribution of

h
 $\tilde{h}$
 $\circ$
 $=$
 $($
 h
 $-$
 v
 ∞
 t
 $)$
 $/$
 $($
 Γ
 t
 $)$
 1
 $/$
 3
 $,$ with
 v
 ∞
and
 Γ

was shown to be universal but sensitive to the global geometry of the growth, which led to the definition of three main universality subclasses. For flat, curved, or stationary geometries, the probability distribution is given by Tracy-Widom Gaussian orthogonal ensemble, Tracy-Widom Gaussian unitary ensemble, or Baik-Rains distributions, respectively [71]. They all share the common feature of being non-Gaussian, with finite skewness and excess kurtosis.

Strikingly, the three universality subclasses can also be realized in the polariton condensate in one dimension, where the role of global geometry can be emulated by appropriate external potentials [16].

In two dimensions, like in one dimension, the height field exhibits a linear growth in time with average velocity

v
 ∞
 $,$ over which fluctuations develop with a
 t
 β

scaling. All 2D KPZ numerical works [38,39] find that the distribution of the reduced fluctuations

h
 $\tilde{h}$
 $\circ$
 $=$
 $($
 h
 $-$
 v
 ∞
 t
 $)$
 $/$
 $($
 Γ
 t
 $)$
 1
 $/$
 3
 $,$ with
 v
 ∞
and
 Γ

are non-Gaussian and suggest, like in one dimension, the existence of different geometry-dependent universality subclasses. However, the corresponding distribution functions have no known analytical form like Tracy-Widom or Baik-Rains distributions in one dimension. To investigate the statistical properties of the phase fluctuations, we record 5120 independent realizations of the time evolution of

ψ
 $,$ from which we extract the phase and unwrap it in time at a fixed space point. The presence of a few space-time vortex-antivortex pairs with random core positions induces phase slips at the position of interest, which are noninstantaneous phase jumps close to (but lower than)

2
 π

.

As already evidenced in one dimension [18], these phase slips result in the existence of replicas of the distribution of the fluctuations separated by approximately

$$2\pi$$

. As detailed in Appendix D, one can select the main central distribution at each time instant in the KPZ window and sum them after appropriate rescaling. The obtained distribution is shown in Fig. 5. It is markedly distinct from a Gaussian distribution of the same mean and variance and matches the distribution¹ computed in 2D KPZ large-scale numerical simulations for flat interfaces [38,39], which is the expected universality subclass for polaritons in the absence of confinement potential [16]. This result for the fluctuations distribution enforces the evidence for KPZ universality in 2D polariton condensates.

FIG. 5.

Histogram of the centered and rescaled to unit-variance phase fluctuations

$$\frac{\delta\theta}{\sigma}$$

in the appropriate KPZ time window for different system sizes

$$L =$$

90.5

,

181

,

362

μ

m

(fuchsia, light green, and dark gray symbols, respectively). Each curve comprises approximately

8

$\times$

10

6

data for each system size. The centered and unit-variance Gaussian distribution [labeled

N

(

0

,

1

)

]

is also shown for comparison, together with the distribution found from KPZ large-scale simulations (labeled KPZ num.) [39].

VIII. CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES

In this work we have shown, using numerical simulations of the discrete stochastic generalized Gross-Pitaevskii equation, that a KPZ regime can be achieved in discrete 2D driven-dissipative exciton polariton condensates under incoherent pumping. We have obtained the condensate spatiotemporal first-order correlation function and shown that, for the parameters studied, it exhibits stretched exponential behavior, in both space and time, with critical exponents characteristic of the 2D KPZ universality class. This scaling persists in a finite region of pump strength and grid spacing. Moreover, the associated scaling function accurately matches the theoretical KPZ scaling function given by functional renormalization group methods. We have also obtained the distribution of the phase fluctuations, which is highly non-Gaussian and very close to the distribution computed in numerical simulations of KPZ interfaces. This is compelling evidence that the phase fluctuations behave as the KPZ

stochastic process.

Our findings open promising perspectives. On the theoretical side, it would be desirable to obtain a complete description of the phase diagram of a polariton condensate in two dimensions, with a clear understanding of the interplay between the various possible regimes, e.g., nonequilibrium BKT and KPZ regimes. This remains a challenge as the parameter space to explore is very large. On the experimental side, the demonstration of the KPZ scaling in a 1D polariton condensate was recently realized in a lattice where real space was discretized [18]. Since our simulations predict that this is the optimal situation to prevent topological defect proliferation in two dimensions, similar techniques could be used in two dimensions. The evidence of a KPZ regime in a 2D polariton condensate would constitute a major breakthrough, especially since a convincing experimental realization of KPZ universality class in two dimensions is still missing and actively sought.

Notes

1 In Ref. [39], the numerical data for the distribution of the fluctuations of the 2D KPZ interface are fitted using a Gumbel distribution with given parameters. Thus, in Fig. 5 we used the same Gumbel function, which is equivalent to comparing with the KPZ numerical data on the range probed in our work. However, note that the Gumbel distribution cannot be expected to be the true distribution for the 2D KPZ and it should not be used to model the far tails. Since these tails are not resolved in our data, the comparison with the Gumbel function is appropriate.

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Appendices

APPENDIX A: DISCRETE GGPE, NUMERICAL INTEGRATION, AND DETECTION OF VORTICES

Our work is based on the numerical solution of the generalized Gross-Pitaevskii equation (1) by discretizing it on a grid of spacing

d

x

. This may describe both a continuous system, by taking the limit of lattice spacing tending to zero, and a specific lattice geometry, which could be realized in the polariton experiment. We provide in this Appendix some further information concerning the mapping to the lattice model, the numerical integration, and the method for identifying the vortices.

1. Derivation of the lattice model

In order to describe the case of polaritons on a lattice, we start from Eq. (1)

i

$\hbar$

∂

t

ψ

$=$

$[$

$-$

$\hbar$

2

2

$$\begin{aligned}
& m \\
& - \\
& i \\
& \hbar \\
& Y \\
& L \\
& , \\
& 2 \\
& 2 \\
& \nabla \\
& 2 \\
& + \\
& V \\
& \ell \\
& + \\
& 2 \\
& g \\
& r \\
& p \\
& Y \\
& r \\
& (\\
& 1 \\
& + \\
& | \\
& \psi \\
& | \\
& 2 \\
& / \\
& n \\
& s \\
&) \\
& + \\
& g \\
& | \\
& \psi \\
& | \\
& 2 \\
& + \\
& i \\
& \hbar \\
& Y \\
& L \\
& , \\
& \theta \\
& 2 \\
& p \\
& 1 \\
& + \\
& | \\
& \psi \\
& | \\
& 2 \\
& / \\
& n \\
& s \\
& - \\
& 1 \\
&] \\
& \psi \\
& + \\
& \hbar \\
& \xi \\
& ,
\end{aligned}$$

(A1)
where

V
 ℓ
(
 x
)

is the periodic lattice potential. In the deep lattice regime, the condensate wave function can be expanded on the Wannier function basis

ψ
(
 t

,
 x
)

=

$\sum_j$

w

j

(
 x
)

ψ

j

(
 t
)

,

with

w

j

(
 x
)

=

w

(
 x
-

x

j
)

,

where

w

(
 x
)

is localized around

x

=

0

. The Wannier functions are a set of real, localized, orthonormal wave functions centered on the lattice sites

x

j

,

where

j

=

{

j

x

,

j

y

} identifies each lattice site of the 2D grid.

We will assume in the following for simplicity that the lattice potential is separable in the

x
and

y
directions, i.e., can be written as

V
 ℓ

(
 x
)

=
 V

(
 x
)

+
 V

(
 y
)

, and we denote by

d
 x

the lattice spacing. Simple examples of

V
(
 x
)

are the sinusoidal case

V
(
 x
)

=
 V

θ
 $\sin$

2
(
 k

θ
 x
)

, with

k
 θ

=
 π

/
 d

x
, or the Kronig-Penney potential

V
(
 x
)

=
 V

θ
 Σ

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < -b \\ V_0 & -b \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & x > b \end{cases}$$
 , with b a parameter associated with the width of the potential barrier and V_0 the Heaviside step function. If the potential is separable, one also has

$$V(x, y) = V_1(x) V_2(y)$$
 , with

$$V_1(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < -b \\ V_0 & -b \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & x > b \end{cases}$$
 the Wannier function for the one-dimensional lattice problem. We will further assume that

$$\psi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ikx} \tilde{\psi}(k) dk$$

n
 s
 $\ll$
 1

such that the terms involving the pump can be Taylor expanded to first order. This hypothesis may be easily released by treating in an analogous fashion the higher-order terms of the Taylor expansion.

Under the above assumptions, by projecting Eq. (A1) onto the Wannier function basis and by neglecting overlaps among Wannier functions on different sites in the nonlinear terms, we obtain the discrete nonlinear Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_j = -K \left(\psi_{j+x} + \psi_{j+y} + \psi_{j-x} + \psi_{j-y} + 1 \right) + W \psi_j$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(\frac{U^2}{P} \right) \frac{r}{Y} \frac{n}{s} \\
 & \left| \psi_j \right| \\
 & \frac{2}{\psi_j} \\
 & + i \\
 & Y \\
 & l \\
 & , \\
 & \theta \\
 & 2 \\
 & (\\
 & p \\
 & - \\
 & 1 \\
 & - \\
 & p \\
 & | \\
 & \psi_j \\
 & | \\
 & 2 \\
 & / \\
 & N \\
 & s \\
 &) \\
 & \psi_j \\
 & + \\
 & \hbar \\
 & \xi_j \\
 & , \\
 & (A2)
 \end{aligned}$$

where the parameters entering in Eq. (A2) are

$$\begin{aligned}
 & K \\
 & = \\
 & \int \\
 & d \\
 & x \\
 & w \\
 & 1 \\
 & d \\
 & (\\
 & x \\
 &) \\
 & [
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} - i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - V(x) \right) \psi \\
 & = \int d^2x \, w(x) \left[- \left(\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} - i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \nabla^2 + V \right] \psi
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(\begin{array}{c} x \\ x \end{array} \right) \\
 &] \\
 & w \\
 & \left(\begin{array}{c} x \\ x \end{array} \right) \\
 & + \\
 & 2 \\
 & g \\
 & r \\
 & p \\
 & / \\
 & y \\
 & r \\
 & , \\
 & (A3) \\
 & \text{with} \\
 & U \\
 & = \\
 & g \\
 & \int \\
 & d \\
 & 2 \\
 & x \\
 & [\\
 & w \\
 & \left(\begin{array}{c} x \\ x \end{array} \right) \\
 &] \\
 & 4 \\
 & , \\
 & U \\
 & r \\
 & = \\
 & g \\
 & r \\
 & \int \\
 & d \\
 & 2 \\
 & x \\
 & [\\
 & w \\
 & \left(\begin{array}{c} x \\ x \end{array} \right) \\
 &] \\
 & 4 \\
 & , \text{ and} \\
 & N \\
 & s \\
 & = \\
 & n \\
 & s \\
 & / \\
 & \int \\
 & d \\
 & 2 \\
 & x \\
 & [\\
 & w
 \end{aligned}$$

(
 x
 $)$
 $]$
 4
 ξ
 j
 $($
 t
 $)$
 $=$
 $\int$
 d
 2
 x
 w
 j
 $($
 x
 $)$
 ξ
 $($
 t
 $,$
 x
 $)$

. The discretized noise is

. In the numerical simulations, in order to make a connection with the continuous limit expressions, we have resummed the term

p
 $($
 1
 $-$
 $|$
 ψ
 j
 $|$
 2
 $/$
 N
 s
 $)$
onto
 p
 $/$
 $($
 1
 $+$
 $|$
 ψ
 j
 $|$
 2
 $/$
 N
 s
 $)$
. Also, for convenience, we have chosen the zero of the energy such that
 w
 0
 $=$
 4
 K
 $.$

The continuous limit of Eq. (A2) can be formally defined by the limit

$$\lim_{d \rightarrow 0} \frac{\psi_j}{d^x}$$

. This allows one to relate the parameters of the lattice model to the ones of the effective continuous model, for example,

$$Re \left(\frac{K}{d^x} \right) = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m^*}$$

an effective mass. However, this limiting procedure assumes that the parameters entering the discrete Gross-Pitaevskii equation are independent of the lattice spacing, which is, strictly speaking, not the case since the lattice potential enters in the definition of

K . This implies that the effective mass will be slightly modified when changing d .

2. Details of the numerical integration

The integration of the discretized equation (1) is performed using the split-step Fourier method. This scheme consists of treating the kinetic and potential or interaction parts of the equation separately when propagating in time. More specifically, after suitable discretization in space, the wave function after a single time step

d_t is constructed by the following three building blocks: (i) propagation by d_t in real space using the potential and interaction parts, (ii) propagation of d_t

in momentum space by the kinetic part, and (iii) addition of the stochastic contribution (Wigner noise). This procedure is repeated in a loop until the desired final time is reached. We note that, switching back and forth from real

to momentum space is done particularly efficiently via the fast Fourier transform procedure. The source code of our solver is available at [72].

3. Methods for identifying the vortices

In order to search for vortices in the phase of the condensate and locate their core, one usually computes the circulation

$$I = \oint_C \nabla \theta \cdot d\mathbf{l} \quad \text{on closed contours}$$

C enclosing each point of the 2D grid. If a quantized vortex is present at a point, then

$$I = \frac{K}{2\pi}, \quad \text{where } K \text{ is the vortex charge; otherwise}$$

$$I = 0 \quad [73]. \text{ The closed contour}$$

C should be defined such that it encloses a small part of the fluid containing up to one vortex core, in which case the circulation does not depend on the precise form of the contour.

However, this method quickly becomes intractable when applied to each point in a grid consisting of many points, such as a space grid with fine spatial discretization, or a space-time grid, defined by selecting one spatial direction and time. In the latter case, the time discretization is typically chosen as much finer than the spatial one, thus requiring an extremely large number of points in order to study the dynamics of the condensate until some time after the steady state has been reached. We circumvent this issue by computing the curl of the gradient of the phase of the condensate,

$$\nabla \times \nabla \theta$$

. By definition, the projection of this quantity in each of the three directions, the two spatial and the temporal ones, is related to the infinitesimal circulation of the gradient of the phase around each point of the grid,

$$\nabla \times \nabla \theta = \vec{S} \rightarrow I, \quad (A4)$$

where

$\vec{S}$

$\vec{n}$

is the normal vector

$\vec{S}$

$\vec{n}$

=

$\frac{d}{dt}$

$\times$

$\frac{d}{dt}$

$\frac{d}{dt}$

$\frac{d}{dt}$

$\frac{d}{dt}$

$\frac{d}{dt}$

$\frac{d}{dt}$

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$\frac{d}{dt}$

$\frac{d}{dt}$

is the unit length, which is chosen equal for both the
x
and
y
directions, and
d
t
is the unit time.

From our numerical simulations, we extract the phase of the condensate in the
(
x
,
y
)

plane in an appropriate time window in the steady state, thus effectively
creating a 3D data set. We then compute the components of the gradient
numerically along each direction separately, once the phase has been unwrapped
in that direction. Finally, we compute each of the components of the curl
straightforwardly. Overall, this procedure allows us to identify, in a
particularly efficient manner, both the spatial vortices and the space-time
topological defects by mapping the (

2

+

1

)-dimensional problem to three distinct two-dimensional ones.

In order to compute the vortex density, we study each component of the curl
separately. More specifically, for each component

{

x

,

y

```

,
t
}
we count the number of nonzero values
C
vort
of each curl component for each fixed "slice"
{
x
i
,
y
i
,
t
i
}
, which allows us to compute the mean number of defects
N
—
vort
,
x
y
=
1
#
t
i
Σ
t
i
E
Δ
t
C
vort
(
t
i
)
,
(A6a)
N
—
vort
,
x
t
=
1
#
y
i
Σ
y
i
C
vort
(
y
i
)
,

```

(A6b)

N

vort

,

y

t

$=$

1

#

x

i

$\sum$

x

i

C

vort

(

x

i

)

,

(A6c)

where

Δ

t

$=$

100

ps

starting from an initial sampling time

t

0

$=$

100

ps

. We then normalize our result by dividing with the total number of points in the 2D grid. We present our results for the mean occupation of the grid by topological defects in Figs. 1 and 2. In all our simulations, we observed that the size of the vortex cores is smaller or of the order of the spatial discretization

d

x

. This is compatible with the order of magnitude of the typical length scale of our model, which can be estimated by comparing the dissipative part of the kinetic term with the gain term (since the interactions are zero). We find that it is proportional to the ratio

y

l

,

2

/

y

l

,

0

and to the relative density fluctuations and is hence expected to be smaller than

d

x

.

APPENDIX B: ROBUSTNESS OF THE KPZ REGIME WITH RESPECT TO PUMP POWER

In order to test the robustness of the KPZ regime, we compute the correlation function

g
 1
 $,$
 ψ
 for different values of the reduced pump
 p
 . The equal-time and equal-space correlations, compensated by the KPZ power laws, are displayed in Fig. 6. We find that the temporal scaling is very robust, as plateaus for time delays spanning approximately
 10
 3
 $-$
 10
 4
 ps
 are clearly identified for all values of the pump. The spatial scaling turns out to be more sensitive to the pump variations. Plateaus for spatial separations approximately
 10
 $-$
 40
 μ
 m
 are apparent for
 p
 $\geq$
 1.8
 , but not for lower values of the pump. The progressive departure from the KPZ regime visible in the spatial scaling can be attributed to the increasing effect of density-phase correlations, as shown below. To summarize, we find a robust KPZ scaling for the correlation functions in the moderately high pump regime, especially stable for the temporal behavior.

FIG. 6.

(a) Equal-space and (b) equal-time correlation functions

g
 1
 $,$
 ψ
 , with darker colors corresponding to larger values of the pump parameter
 p
 $=$
 1.6
 $,$
 1.7
 $,$
 1.8
 $,$
 2
 $,$
 2.5

. The correlations are compensated by the appropriate KPZ power laws such that the corresponding data appear as plateaus in the KPZ spatial and temporal ranges, which are highlighted in green.

As expounded in the main text, the connection between the correlations of the condensate field

ψ
 and the correlations of the phase field

θ
 itself relies on some assumptions. In order to check their validity, we extract the density
 n

(t, r) and phase $\theta(t, r)$ from the condensate field and we compute separately the contributions to g_1 from the density correlations

$$\begin{aligned}
 g_1(t, r) &= \langle n(t_0, r_0 + \Delta r) n(t_0 + \Delta t, r_0 + \Delta r) \rangle \\
 &= \langle n(t_0, r_0) n(t_0 + \Delta t, r_0 + \Delta r) \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle n(t, \theta + \Delta t, r, \theta + \Delta r) \rangle$$

(B1)

and the one from the phase correlations

$$g_1(t, \Delta t, \Delta r) = \langle e^{i[\theta(t, \theta + \Delta t, r, \theta + \Delta r) - \theta(t, \theta, r, \theta)]} \rangle$$

(B2)

The results for

$$p = 2$$

and 1.6 are displayed in Fig. 7. We observe that

$$g_1$$

$$,$$

n is very close to unity and constant over the whole KPZ spatial and temporal ranges for both pump powers. Thus, the role of density-density correlations is indeed negligible. The density-phase time correlations are almost vanishing, since

$$g_1$$

$$,$$

$$\psi$$

$$(\Delta t$$

$$,$$

$$0)$$

$$,$$

$$\theta$$

$$(\Delta t$$

$$,$$

$$0)$$

almost perfectly coincide over the whole KPZ time range, as shown in Fig. 7(a). The density-phase-space correlations are more important and their effect increases while decreasing the pump. They are shown in Fig. 7(b). For

$$p = 2$$

$$,$$

$$g_1$$

$$,$$

$$\psi$$

$$,$$

$$\theta$$

. We checked that the difference between the two curves is just a multiplicative factor. Hence, the density-phase correlations are almost constant in the spatial KPZ window and the scaling of

$$g_1$$

$$,$$

$$\psi$$

$$,$$

$$1.6$$

$$,$$

$$g$$

$$,$$

$$g$$

ψ
 (as already visible in Fig. 7) or for
 θ
 . Moreover, the density-phase correlations start varying within the KPZ window
 and the difference between
 ψ
 and
 θ
 is no longer a mere multiplicative factor. Thus, we conclude that for
 $p = 2$
 , the behavior of the correlations
 ψ
 indeed reflects the KPZ scaling of the phase itself, in both space and time,
 whereas for
 $p = 1.6$
 , the density-phase-space correlations also contribute to the behavior of the
 ψ
 and the KPZ regime is hindered in space, although it persists in time.

FIG. 7.

(a) Equal-space and (b) equal-time correlation functions

ψ
 (red) and
 θ
 (blue), for
 $p = 1.6$
 (lighter shade) and
 $p = 2$
 (darker shade). The dashed lines indicate the corresponding stretched
 exponentials with KPZ exponents. In (b) the lighter shades are shifted upward
 after multiplying by a factor of 1.25 in order to avoid overlapping with the
 darker shades. The inset shows the density-density correlation

$\frac{g}{1+n}$

for these values of the pump.

APPENDIX C: KPZ SCALING FUNCTION

In the functional renormalization group analysis of Ref. [20], the following scaling function

F

is computed:

$\frac{C}{\omega}$

(p)

$=$

2

$|$

p

d

$+$

2

$+$

X

C

$\frac{0}{F}$

y

$\frac{0}{\omega}$

$|$

p

$|$

z

$\cdot$

(C_1)

Here

C

$\frac{0}{\omega}$

$|$

p

$|$

z

$\cdot$

(C_1)

Here

C

$\frac{0}{\omega}$

$|$

p

$|$

z

$\cdot$

(C_1)

Here

C

$\frac{0}{\omega}$

$|$

p

$|$

z

$\cdot$

(C_1)

Here

C

$\frac{0}{\omega}$

are nonuniversal normalization constants and $\frac{C}{\omega}$ is the Fourier transform of the connected correlation function defined in Eq. (4), that is,

$$C(\omega, p) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dp \, e^{-i(\omega t - p \cdot r)} = C(\omega, p)$$

To compute the scaling function F defined in Eq. (3), one can replace

$$C(\omega, p)$$

by its scaling form (C1), switch to polar coordinates, and change frequency variable to

$$\tau = y$$

θ
 ω
 $/$
 p
 z
 . One obtains in two dimensions

$$\begin{aligned}
 &C \\
 &(\quad) \\
 &t \\
 &,\quad \\
 &r \\
 &)\quad \\
 &= \\
 &C \\
 &\theta \\
 &- \\
 &y \\
 &\theta \\
 &1 \\
 &2 \\
 &\pi \\
 &2 \\
 &\int \\
 &\theta \\
 &\infty \\
 &d \\
 &\tau \\
 &F \\
 &.\quad \\
 &(\quad) \\
 &\tau \\
 &)\quad \\
 &\int \\
 &\theta \\
 &\infty \\
 &d \\
 &p \\
 &p \\
 &3 \\
 &+ \\
 &X \\
 &- \\
 &z \\
 &\times \\
 &[\\
 &\cos \\
 &(\quad) \\
 &p \\
 &z \\
 &\tau \\
 &t \\
 &/ \\
 &y \\
 &\theta \\
 &)\quad \\
 &B \\
 &J \\
 &(\quad) \\
 &\theta \\
 &,\quad \\
 &p
 \end{aligned}$$

r
 $)$
 $-$
 1
 $]$
 $,$
 $(C3)$
 where

B
 J
 is a Bessel function and the parity of
 F
 $.$

has been used. By changing momentum variable to

u
 $=$
 p
 z
 τ
 t
 $/$
 y
 $-$

θ
 $,$ we finally obtain

C
 $($
 t
 $,$
 r
 $)$
 $=$
 C
 θ
 t
 2
 X
 $/$
 z
 F
 $($
 y
 θ
 x
 $/$
 t
 1
 $/$
 z
 $)$
 $,$
 F
 $($
 y
 $)$
 $=$
 $\int$
 θ
 ∞
 d
 τ
 F
 $.$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(\frac{\tau}{2} \right) \frac{X}{Z} \int_0^\infty \frac{du}{u^2} \frac{X}{Z} \times \\
 & \left[\cos \left(\frac{u}{B} \right) \frac{J(\theta)}{J\left(\frac{u}{\tau}\right)} \frac{1}{Z} \frac{y}{y} \right] - 1 \\
 & \quad \quad \quad , \\
 & \quad \quad \quad (C4) \\
 & \quad \quad \quad C \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \theta \\
 & \quad \quad \quad = \\
 & \quad \quad \quad C \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \theta \\
 & \quad \quad \quad - \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \left(\frac{2}{\pi} \right) \frac{Z}{Y} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \theta \\
 & \quad \quad \quad 1 \\
 & \quad \quad \quad + \\
 & \quad \quad \quad 2 \\
 & \quad \quad \quad X
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{y_0}{y_0}$$

$$\frac{1}{z}$$

(C5)

The normalization constants

$$C_0$$

and

$$y_0$$

are not universal and have to be prescribed. In this work we fix

$$C_0$$

and

$$y_0$$

such that

$$F_0$$

$$= 1$$

and

$$F_\infty$$

$$= 0.45$$

. The integrals in Eq. (C4) were computed numerically, using the tabulated data for

$$F_0$$

from Ref. [20].

APPENDIX D: PHASE DISTRIBUTION

As mentioned in the main text, the occurrence of a few topological defects, which are space-time vortex-antivortex pairs, generates phase slips of the time-unwrapped phase when crossing a pair. As can be seen in the typical unwrapped phase trajectories shown in Fig. 8(a), these phase slips consist of abrupt but noninstantaneous changes of the phase of approximately

$$2\pi$$

. The existence of these jumps disrupts the leading linear behavior in time and thus prevents one from consistently defining the reduced fluctuations as

$$\delta\theta$$

$$\propto$$

$$(\theta - \langle \theta \rangle)$$

$$/ t^\beta$$

$$\beta$$

$$/ t^\beta$$

$$.$$

FIG. 8.

(a) Three typical unwrapped phase trajectories, displaying zero, one, or two phase jumps. (b) Plot of

P
 $\left[\begin{array}{c} \theta \\ t \\ i \end{array} \right]$
)
 $\left. \right]$
 for a given
 t
 i
 (gray symbols). We select the data for which
 $\left| \begin{array}{c} \theta \\ t \\ i \end{array} \right|$
 $-$
 θ
 t
 i
 $,$
 $\max$
 $\left| \begin{array}{c} \theta \\ t \\ i \end{array} \right|$
 $<$
 ϵ
 and then we perform a secondary selection for
 P
 $\left[\begin{array}{c} \theta \\ t \\ i \end{array} \right]$
 $\left. \right]$
 $>$
 P
 $\min$
 $,$ where
 P
 $\min$
 is shown as a black dashed line. The data which satisfy both criteria are highlighted (green dots).

In order to circumvent this issue, we compute the probability density function

P
 $\left[\begin{array}{c} \theta \\ t \\ i \end{array} \right]$
 $\left. \right]$
 for each discrete time instant
 t
 i

in the KPZ window. An example of such a distribution is shown in Fig. 8(b). Similarly to what was reported in one dimension [18], the phase slips give rise to secondary peaks in the distribution of the phase. The fluctuations of the realization where no, one, two, etc., jumps occurred populate the distribution in the first, second, third, etc., peak, where the different peaks are separated by approximately

$$2\pi$$

. These peaks have a similar shape, which shows that the dynamics is in fact piecewise KPZ dynamics in between the jumps. A similar behavior was also reported in [18] in one dimension and shown not to disrupt the emergence of KPZ universality. To study the shape of the main distribution with more accuracy, we concentrate on the fluctuations in the first peak for each time instant, by requiring

$$\left| \frac{\theta_{t_i} - \theta_{t_{i-1}}}{\max_{i \in [P]} \theta_{t_i}} \right| < \varepsilon, \text{ where}$$

$$\theta_{t_i}$$

is the point for which

$$P = \max_{i \in [P]} \left(\left| \frac{\theta_{t_i} - \theta_{t_{i-1}}}{\max_{i \in [P]} \theta_{t_i}} \right| \right)$$

, and we focus on the subset of them where

$$P \left[\frac{\theta_{t_i} - \theta_{t_{i-1}}}{\max_{i \in [P]} \theta_{t_i}} \right] > P_{\min}$$

. For each time instant, the corresponding distribution is centered at zero, by subtracting the first moment of the selected data,

$$\delta \theta_{t_i} = \theta_{t_i} - \frac{1}{P} \sum_{i=1}^P \theta_{t_i}$$

-
<
 θ
 t
 i
>

, and normalized to unit variance. We then sum the fluctuations of the first peaks, properly normalized, for all time instants in the appropriate KPZ time window.

We mention that we have also performed a detailed analysis of the skewness and excess kurtosis of the phase fluctuations. These quantities are insensitive to normalization issues, whereas the data analysis of the distribution can suffer from unavoidable errors due to the empirical choice of

ε

and

P

min

, and the small number of discrete bins for given

t

i

. This analysis is reported in [74] and confirms that the skewness and excess kurtosis computed from our data are in good agreement with the universal values obtained from KPZ numerical simulations [38,39].

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Negative-mass exciton polaritons induced by dissipative light-matter coupling in an atomically thin semiconductor

M. Wurdack, T. Yun, M. Katzer, A. G. Truscott, A. Knorr, M. Selig, E. A.

Ostrovskaya & E. Estrecho

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Abstract

Dispersion engineering is a powerful and versatile tool that can vary the speed of light signals and induce negative-mass effects in the dynamics of particles and quasiparticles. Here, we show that dissipative coupling between bound electron-hole pairs (excitons) and photons in an optical microcavity can lead to the formation of exciton polaritons with an inverted dispersion of the lower polariton branch and hence, a negative mass. We perform direct measurements of the anomalous dispersion in atomically thin (monolayer) WS₂ crystals embedded in planar microcavities and demonstrate that the propagation direction of the negative-mass polaritons is opposite to their momentum. Our study introduces the concept of non-Hermitian dispersion engineering for exciton polaritons and opens a pathway for realising new phases of quantum matter in a solid state.

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Introduction

Losses are ubiquitous in nature and are usually perceived as detrimental to the performance of electronic and photonic devices. However, recent understanding of the physics of non-Hermitian systems with loss and gain has led to the possibility of novel properties and functionalities by judicious control of losses. This concept is most powerfully demonstrated in non-Hermitian photonics^{1,2,3}, where non-Hermitian spectral degeneracies (exceptional points) and associated symmetry-breaking transitions fundamentally change the laws of wave propagation and scattering. Although the study of non-Hermitian physics in quantum electronic systems remains difficult, significant progress has been achieved in hybrid photonic systems, where photons are strongly coupled to electronic excitations in a solid state to form exciton polaritons, part-light part-matter hybrid quasiparticles⁴. Nontrivial topology of the eigenstates^{5,6} and mode selectivity⁷ in the vicinity of the exceptional points, band engineering⁸ and nonlinear localisation⁹ in non-Hermitian lattices, emergence of non-Hermitian topology¹⁰ and divergent quantum geometric metric near an exceptional point¹¹ have been demonstrated in the strong light-matter coupling regime.

Here, we dramatically modify the exciton-polariton dispersion by exploiting a previously undetected non-Hermitian component of exciton-photon interaction called dissipative coupling¹². Our microscopic theory shows that this type of coupling can arise from the interplay of exciton-phonon scattering in monolayers of transition metal dichalcogenide crystals (TMDCs) and photon losses. Also known as external coupling via the continuum¹³, dissipative coupling leads to level attraction or clustering^{13,14} and resonance trapping¹⁵ in other physical systems. This is in contrast to the well-known coherent (or internal) coupling which always leads to level repulsion. We show theoretically that the interplay between the coherent and dissipative light-matter coupling results in an inverted dispersion of exciton polaritons in a planar microcavity with an embedded monolayer TMDC. We directly measure this anomalous dispersion in several planar microcavities with integrated monolayer WS₂¹⁶ at room temperature, and demonstrate the negative-mass transport of exciton polaritons. The key role of the exciton-phonon scattering in the dissipative coupling mechanism is further confirmed by temperature-dependent measurements.

Results

Theory

To demonstrate the principle of non-Hermitian dispersion engineering, we start with an effective Hamiltonian given by $H = H_0 - iW$ ^{†15} describing the coherent (internal) and dissipative (external) coupling of cavity photons and excitons

:

(1)

Here, the Hermitian term H_0 models the coherent coupling of excitons and photons with the bare energies $E_{c,x}$, respectively. The coherent coupling strength V is proportional to the exciton oscillator strength and the overlap of the exciton dipole with the confined electric field of the cavity photon⁴. The matrix W describes the external coupling to two dissipative channels in the system¹⁵: y_c is the coupling of cavity photons to the continuum of states outside the cavity due to the imperfect mirrors limiting their lifetimes, y_x is the coupling to radiative and non-radiative channels resulting in the homogeneous linewidth

broadening of excitons^{17,18}, and $g_{x,c}$ quantifies the effective dissipative coupling between excitons and cavity photons via the two decay channels.

This non-Hermitian, phenomenological Hamiltonian, Eq. (1), is motivated by a full microscopic model (see Supplementary Note 1). In a self-consistent theory without free parameters, with all values from *ab initio* calculations, we show that the off-diagonal dissipation terms in W (cp. Eq. (1)) arise due to the mixing of the two decay channels: (i) the dissipation of energy from the excitons via phonon scattering events in the TMDC, i.e. due to the phonon bath, leading to g_x and (ii) the energy loss due to leakage of photons out of the cavity leading to g_c . Only for nonzero off-diagonal dissipation terms in Eq. (1) one can observe level attraction and anomalous dispersion as described below.

Remarkably, when the coupling to the phonon bath is 'turned off' in the microscopic model, the effects arising from the dissipative coupling disappear (see Supplementary Note 1). Since the exciton-phonon scattering is known to be significant in TMDCs^{17,18,19,20}, we expect strong effects of dissipative coupling via this channel in this material system. Furthermore, for all-dielectric TMDC microcavities at room temperature, we expect g_c to be much smaller than g_x , since photon losses (affecting the cavity photon linewidth) are much weaker than phonon-induced losses (affecting the exciton linewidth)^{16,21}. Hence, herein, we set $g_c=0$ and $g_x=g$.

The exciton-photon coupling in Eq. (1) gives rise to the complex upper (U) and lower (L) eigenvalue branches:

(2)

where

is the mean complex eigenvalue with $\langle y \rangle = (y_c + g + y_x)/2$, $\Delta = E_c - E_x$ is the bare energy difference and $\delta = y_c + g - y_x$. The eigenvalues and eigenvectors will simultaneously coalesce at the exceptional point when $V = |\delta|/2$ and . Note that when $g=0$, the non-Hermitian term $-iWW^\dagger$ simply describes the decay rates $y_{c,x}/\hbar$ of the bare (uncoupled) cavity photon and exciton, respectively.

The level and linewidth dynamics for different strengths of V and g are shown in Fig. 1a, b. The general behaviour in Δ - g parameter space is discussed in Supplementary Note 2. We focus on the strong coupling regime at $V > |\delta|/2$ characterised by energy anticrossings and linewidth crossings. In this regime, the eigenstates correspond to the hybrid exciton-polariton quasiparticles^{4,22,23,24}. The corresponding shifts of the polariton energies from the bare exciton and photon energies, defined as , is plotted in Fig. 1c as a function of Δ . In the purely coherent coupling regime ($g=0$), the energies exhibit level repulsion (positive ΔU_L) with a maximum value at resonance ($\Delta=0$) where the linewidths cross. The level repulsion decreases monotonically with $|\Delta|$, reminiscent of the familiar Hermitian limit, $y_{c,x}, g \rightarrow 0$.

Fig. 1: Coherent and dissipative coupling.

figure 1

a Energy $E_{U,L}$ and b linewidth $\gamma_{U,L}$ dynamics for different values of coherent V and dissipative g coupling strengths. Dashed lines in a are the bare exciton E_x and cavity E_c energies while those in (b) correspond to the bare exciton γ_x and cavity γ_c decay rates. c Energy shift ΔU_L (see text) for the parameters used in (a) and (b). In all cases, we tuned the cavity energy E_c while fixing E_x and $\gamma_c = 0.1\gamma_x$.

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The behaviour of the energy levels and linewidths is drastically modified when the dissipative coupling g is introduced. The linewidth crossing shifts towards higher Δ leaving a linewidth repulsion close to resonance, which leads to the so-called resonance trapping of the long-lived state¹⁵. Remarkably, the energy shift ΔU_L becomes negative for a wide range of Δ , indicating level attraction which peaks at a positive

before monotonically decreasing. This strongly Δ -dependent energy shift is

responsible for the anomalous dispersion of exciton polaritons presented in this work.

To describe the exciton-photon dispersion, we approximate the cavity photon dispersion as $E_c(k) = E_0 + \hbar^2 k^2 / 2mc$, where E_0 is the cavity resonance energy at normal incidence, $\hbar k$ is the momentum along the plane of the cavity, and mc is the in-plane effective mass of the cavity photon. The exciton energy E_x is approximately constant within the relevant momentum range probed here. Typical dispersion curves at a positive exciton-photon detuning, $\Delta_0 = E_0 - E_x$, are presented in Fig. 2a. Without the dissipative coupling ($g=0$), the dispersion features repelling branches corresponding to the well-known upper and lower exciton polaritons⁴, where the lower branch is always redshifted from the exciton line. With increasing dissipative coupling strength g , level attraction starts to dominate, firstly starting at higher k . When g is large enough compared to V , the entire lower polariton branch is blueshifted from the exciton line.

Fig. 2: Anomalous dispersion of exciton polaritons.
figure 2

a Dispersion for different values of coherent and dissipative coupling strengths at fixed exciton-photon detuning $\Delta_0 = \gamma x$. Thin grey lines are the bare exciton E_x and cavity photon E_c dispersions. b k -dependent mass parameters m_1 (red) and m_2 (blue) corresponding to the two dispersions in (a) (see arrows). $m_1 < 0$ in the shaded region. c Lower polariton dispersion in two-dimensional k -space corresponding to (a) with $V = 0.3\gamma x$ and $g = 0.6\gamma x$. d-f Negative-mass ($m_1 < 0$) regions (shaded) in k -space as a function of d V for $g = 0.6\gamma x$, $\Delta_0 = \gamma x$, e g for $V = 0.6\gamma x$, $\Delta_0 = \gamma x$, and f Δ_0 for $V = 0.3\gamma x$, $g = 0.6\gamma x$.

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Note that, for this set of parameters, the strongest level attraction occurs at a finite k , i.e., where

and the level attraction peaks (see Fig. 1c). However, for a very large exciton-photon detuning, i.e.

, the strength of level attraction monotonically decreases for all k , resulting in a single inversion peak at $k=0$ (see Supplementary Note 3).

To characterise the dispersion, we define the mass parameters²⁵

, which determines the group velocity $v_g = \hbar k / m_1$, and

, which determines the acceleration due to an external field. Note that m_1 is only negative around the inverted dispersion whereas m_2 switches signs at the inflection points. The masses are plotted in Fig. 2b for the lower branches in Fig. 2a (indicated by arrows) with and without dissipative coupling. When $g=0$, m_1 is positive for all momenta and m_2 is only negative at finite k , a known feature of exciton polaritons²⁵. This is in stark contrast to the case with $g \neq 0$, where both masses become negative near the inversion peak. While m_2 switches back to positive sign, m_1 remains negative for the plotted range of momenta, shown by the shaded region in Fig. 2b. Note that the sign of the m_1 and m_2 for the upper branch is largely unaffected by g .

It is important to point out that the inverted dispersion is isotropic, forming a ring in k -space, as shown in Fig. 2c. This is distinct from the inverted bands in periodic band structures, where the inversion peaks are localised at high-symmetry points only²⁶.

We further analyse the Δ_0 - V - g parameter space as a function of $\hbar k$ to determine under which conditions the inverted dispersion appears. Notably, the model predicts that the negative-mass regions disappear when coherent coupling significantly dominates over dissipative coupling, as shown by the plots in Fig. 2d, e. Hence, either V has to be decreased or g increased to observe the inverted dispersion. The negative-mass regime also persists for a wide range of the exciton-photon detuning Δ_0 , as shown in Fig. 2f. However, the momentum range corresponding to the negative mass increases with the detuning Δ_0 and the dispersion becomes completely inverted at large positive $\Delta_0 / \gamma x$. In summary, positive exciton-photon detunings Δ_0 and strong g with respect to V favour the

negative-mass regime in our system.

Anomalous dispersion experiments

To demonstrate the effects of the anomalous dispersion experimentally, we fabricated several planar microcavities with integrated monolayer WS₂ at positive exciton-photon detunings and with reduced coherent coupling strength V . We achieved this by using substrate engineering and our recently developed technology for integrating monolayer WS₂ into polymethyl-methacrylate (PMMA)/SiO_x spaced planar microcavities¹⁶. The relative exciton oscillator strength, and hence V , of the monolayer is weakened after the transfer onto our distributed Bragg reflector (DBR) and further material deposition (see Supplementary Note 4).

Figure 3a illustrates the sample design. Here, the WS₂ monolayer is mechanically transferred onto the bottom DBR protected with PMMA against further deposition of the thin SiO_x spacer and the top DBR (see 'Methods'). The thin SiO_x spacer allows us to carefully adjust the exciton-photon detuning $\Delta 0$ and the two distributed Bragg reflectors enable a Q-factor of above 10³ (see Supplementary Note 4).

Fig. 3: Experimental realisation of negative mass.

figure 3

a Schematics of the fabricated microcavity with embedded monolayer WS₂. b, c Momentum-resolved PL spectra of two samples with different values of the exciton-photon detuning, $\Delta 0$. The maximum intensity at each k value is scaled to unity to visualise the shape of the lower branch. In panel c, the normalisation of the spectrum is performed for $E < 2.028$ eV to suppress the strong emission from the upper branch. The black circles are the fitted peak positions of the two branches. The solid red lines are the fitted dispersion of the upper (EU) and lower (EL) polaritons and the black dashed lines are the bare microcavity photons (E_c) and excitons (E_x). Error bars in b, c represent 95% confidence interval. d Mass parameters (red) m_1 and (blue) m_2 of the lower branches in panel (b) and panel (c), with the negative-mass regions shaded in red.

Full size image

The momentum-resolved photoluminescence (PL) spectra of the room temperature polariton emission in two samples with different $\Delta 0$ are shown in Fig. 3b, c, together with the extracted peak energies of the lower and upper exciton-polariton branches. The observed PL intensities are dictated by the photonic Hopfield coefficients and thermalisation of polaritons²⁷. Hence, the PL of the upper branch in Fig. 3c, which is highly photonic at such a large positive $\Delta 0$, strongly dominates the emission of the structure and decreases at larger energies due to thermalisation. To highlight the emission of the lower polariton branch in Fig. 3b, c we scaled the maximum values of the PL spectra to unity at each value of k . In Fig. 3c we defined a cut-off energy for normalisation at $E \approx 2.028$ eV due to the strongly dominating emission from the upper branch. As seen in Fig. 3b, c, the lower branch energy decreases towards E_x at large momenta, demonstrating the level attraction shown in Fig. 2a. We also observe similar behaviour in reflectance measurements (see Supplementary Note 6 for more details).

The complex-valued dispersion branches are extracted by fitting the spectrum at each value of k using a two-peak Voigt function, with the peak energy and linewidth corresponding to the real and imaginary parts of the complex eigenvalues of the system Hamiltonian, respectively (see Supplementary Note 5). The k -dependence of the extracted peaks were then fitted using the model Eq. (2), with the fitting results presented as red solid lines in Fig. 3b, c. Here, the energies and linewidths of the cavity photons were extracted from the reflectivity measurements of the empty microcavities next to the monolayers (see Supplementary Note 4), and fixed for the fits, with the energies shifted by approximately -8 meV due to the optical thickness of the monolayer. The exciton linewidths and energies are expected to change after the deposition of the top DBR¹⁶, thus, these values were chosen as free-fitting parameters together with the coherent and dissipative coupling strengths V and g . For Fig. 3b, the

fitting yields the values: $\Delta_0 = (24 \pm 2) \text{ meV}$, $\gamma_x = (31 \pm 12) \text{ meV}$, $V = (13 \pm 6) \text{ meV}$ and $g = (18 \pm 9) \text{ meV}$, and for Fig. 3c, $\Delta_0 = (51 \pm 1) \text{ meV}$, $\gamma_x = (42 \pm 8) \text{ meV}$, $V = (12 \pm 5) \text{ meV}$ and $g = (23 \pm 4) \text{ meV}$.

The values of the parameters for the two samples are consistent (within errors) and satisfy the condition $2V > |\delta|$, confirming that the samples operate in the strong coupling regime and thus host exciton polaritons. However, due to the suppressed exciton oscillator strength in our samples¹⁶ the coupling strength V is smaller than g , leading to level attraction and the anomalous dispersion. The level attraction at $k=0$ is stronger in the more positively detuned sample. This agrees with the calculations shown in Fig. 1c, where the magnitude of level attraction increases as

approaches unity. Indeed, is ~ 0.8 (~ 0.5) for the more (less) positively detuned sample. Since in these samples, the maximum level attraction occurs at a larger Δ and k , and therefore, the inversion peaks in these samples are located at a finite momentum, endowing a negative mass m_1 to the lower polaritons with momenta $k \gtrless \pm 2.7 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ for Fig. 3b and $k \gtrless \pm 2 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ for Fig. 3c.

Note that in samples with the same detuning, can be made larger than 1 by decreasing dissipative coupling g or narrowing the exciton linewidth γ_x , which results in suppressed level attraction and an inversion peak located $k=0$ (see Fig. 2f). We demonstrated this effect experimentally in a sample made using a high-quality DBR and a microcavity fabrication technique that does not reduce the oscillator strength of the monolayer exciton and therefore preserves the coherent coupling V ^{21,28} (see Supplementary Note 7). In this sample, which has the same exciton-photon detuning as that shown in Fig. 3c, we observe much less attraction compared to the samples with weakened V discussed above. This agrees with our model, where the effect of dissipative coupling on the dispersion, i.e., level attraction, depends on the strength of coherent coupling. Nevertheless, the observed level attraction, albeit weak, suggests that dissipative exciton-photon coupling is ubiquitous in monolayer TMDCs but is often screened by the strong coherent exciton-photon coupling.

Negative-mass dynamics

Finally, we show that the anomalous dispersion has a dramatic effect on the dynamics of the lower polaritons using the more positively detuned sample from Fig. 3c. In contrast to positive mass particles, such as the upper polaritons, negative-mass particles move in the opposite direction to their momentum $\hbar k$, i.e. their group velocity is opposite to their momentum, as given by the relation $m_1 v_g = \hbar k$. To demonstrate this behaviour in the experiment, we excite the sample with a tightly-focused off-resonant laser spot, which results in a spatially localised distribution of polaritons with a wide range of momenta, as shown by the distributions in Fig. 3b. Polaritons will then move away from the excitation spot in the direction determined by their group velocity v_g (see Fig. 4a). Hence, polaritons displaced to the positive (negative) x direction with respect to the spot must have an average velocity towards the same direction²¹. We then measure the momentum distribution of the polaritons displaced from the laser spot by Fourier transforming only a small region in real space (see Fig. 4b-g) using a spatial filter (see 'Methods').

Fig. 4: Negative mass effect on polariton dynamics.
figure 4

a Schematic of the creation of polaritons in real space (red) by a tight pump laser (green). The polaritons move away from the pump spot with a certain group velocity v_g (red arrows). A real space filter (dashed box) is used to isolate the detection area in real space before Fourier-transforming to measure the momentum space distribution. b-d Experimental angle-resolved spectra along k_x for different configurations. The fitted upper (EU) and lower (EL) polariton branches extracted from Fig. 3b are shown on top of the dispersion measurements for guidance. Insets show the position of the filter displaced along the x -direction with respect to the pump spot (arrows represent the average v_g inside the detection window). e-g Momentum distributions of the (black) lower and the

(red) upper branch.

Full size image

Polaritons directly at the excitation spot, measured with a filter centred on the spot (see inset of Fig. 4c), feature a symmetric momentum distribution for both upper and lower branches, as shown by the momentum-resolved PL spectrum in Fig. 4c. This is clearly seen in Fig. 4f, where we directly plot the momentum distribution of the two branches by separating the spectrum at ~ 2.02 eV. To obtain these plots, we integrate the intensities for each panel above and below the cut-off energy, and scale the respective maximum values to unity. The PL spectrum shows a dramatic change in the distribution for particles displaced to the right of the spot, as shown in Fig. 4b, e. The upper polariton emission is skewed to the right, i.e., the average momentum has the same direction as its group velocity, but remarkably, the lower polariton emission is skewed to the left, i.e., its average momentum is opposite to the particle displacement or the group velocity. The additional peak to the left of the upper polariton distribution likely arises from the tail of the lower polariton distribution, which has a much larger linewidth. This opposite behaviour of momentum and group velocity of the lower polaritons is consistently observed to the left of the laser spot, as demonstrated by Fig. 4d, g, where the particles displaced to the left, or with leftward group velocity, have the opposite, rightward average momentum. In all configurations, the upper polariton branch with the positive mass behaves as expected, i.e., the group velocity and momentum are parallel. Therefore, we have confirmed the negative-mass dynamics of the polaritons using a mixture of particles with distinct signs of effective masses m_1 .

Discussion

In summary, we have observed dissipative coupling of excitons and photons in monolayer TMDCs (WS₂) embedded in planar microcavities at room temperature. This coupling drastically modifies the dispersion of the coupled exciton-photon system, leading to an anomalous (inverted) dispersion for the lower polariton branch. The anomalous dispersion arises when the dissipative coupling between excitons and cavity photons overcomes their coherent coupling, which leads to a negative-mass regime in a large range of momenta at a positive exciton-photon detuning. We have demonstrated the negative-mass effect on the dynamics of polaritons, resulting in the opposing directions of group velocity and momentum. This dynamics should also occur for trion polaritons with anomalous dispersion^{29,30}.

The dissipative coupling causing the observed effects can arise from the coupling of both excitons and photons to the same decay channel¹⁵, or to a third dissipative mode³¹. As discussed above and confirmed by our microscopic theory (see Supplementary Note 1), for TMDCs, such as WS₂, this coupling likely arises from exciton-phonon interactions^{18,19,32}. Recent studies have already shown that phonons play a significant role in exciton-photon interactions²⁰. Furthermore, our hypothesis is supported by the temperature-dependent measurements shown in Supplementary Note 6, where the polariton dispersion exhibits a transition from level attraction to level repulsion by lowering the temperature. This is likely because the exciton-phonon interactions and the relative values of dissipative coupling strength g versus the coherent coupling strength V diminish at lower temperature. Dissipative coupling can also arise via coupling to a 'hidden' photon mode³¹, but this mode with opposite polarisation is not present in our planar DBR-based microcavities.

We note that in ref. 29, a similar level attraction and inverted dispersion was observed for the trion-polariton branch at a large trion-photon detuning. However, their qualitative and heuristic model supporting this finding is not applicable in samples without large doping. We expect doping to be low in our as-exfoliated monolayer integrated into the high-quality flip-chip cavity, as presented previously³³, where an anomalous dispersion is also observed at the exciton energy (see Supplementary Note 7). In contrast to ref. 29, our approach explains all observed features by incorporating exciton-phonon coupling and cavity losses, which are always present in these TMDC microcavities and are determined from *ab initio* calculations. As a result, we would expect that the

joint action of cavity losses and exciton-phonon scattering should also contribute to the experimental scenario of ref. 29, and an effective non-Hermitian Hamiltonian with dissipative coupling could be an appropriate model.

Various types of dissipative coupling of different origins have been observed in optomechanical¹² and magnon-photon systems¹⁴, and open microwave cavities^{13,15}. It also appears in theoretical studies of fragmented exciton-polariton condensates³⁴ and excitons polaritons coupled to an optomechanical resonator³⁵. Similarly to cavity magnonics and optomechanics, dissipative coupling might be ubiquitous in exciton-photon systems and hence, the anomalous dispersion observed here could potentially also be observed in other semiconductor microcavities³⁶, e.g., with III/V-semiconductors²⁴, perovskites^{10,37}, and organic semiconductors³⁸.

Our work extends the arsenal of dispersion engineering tools for hybrid light-matter particles beyond the application of periodic fields and spin-orbit coupling^{39,40} by adding the possibility of novel, non-Hermitian dispersion engineering. Here, we only showed the dynamics induced by negative m_1 . However, the anomalous dispersion can be further employed to demonstrate nontrivial wavepacket dynamics²⁵ and negative-mass hydrodynamics³⁹ due to both negative m_1 and m_2 . For example, the negative-mass polaritons are expected to accelerate in the direction opposite to an applied force. It would be interesting to study bosonic condensation of polaritons in the anomalous dispersion regime⁴¹, where the energy minimum around $k=0$ (see Fig. 2c) is not the global one. The inverted dispersion can also eliminate instabilities of exciton-polariton condensates²⁶, which can, for example, enable studies of the Kardar-Parisi-Zhang phase in quantum systems without the complexities of an underlying lattice structure⁴².

Methods

Sample fabrication

The DBRs used for the microcavities presented in the main text are grown by plasma-enhanced chemical vapour deposition (PECVD) and consist of (bottom) 17.5 and (top) 15.5 alternating quarter-wave stack of SiO_x and SiN_x, as schematically shown in Fig. 3a. Further, the first half of the SiO₂ cavity spacer is deposited via RF-sputtering and finished with atomic layer deposition (ALD). The monolayer is then mechanically transferred at 120 °C on top of the oxygen-plasma-treated DBR substrate to increase the bonding between the monolayer and the substrate. To protect the monolayer against further material deposition, a 80 nm thick layer of poly-methyl-methacrylate (PMMA) is spin-coated on top of the structure. Before depositing the top DBR via PECVD to complete the structure, the cavity thickness and hence, the cavity mode, is fine-tuned with an intermediate PECVD grown SiO_x layer. The two DBRs enable a Q-factor of above 10³ (see Supplementary Note 4). More details about the fabrication process are reported in ref. 16.

Optical measurements

The microcavity is excited with a frequency doubled Nd:YAG laser source at $\lambda = 532$ nm ($E \approx 2.33$ eV), which is tightly focused onto the sample surface with a infinity corrected Mitutoyo NIR objective (NA=0.65). The PL is collected with an in-house built optical microscope, which allows for spatial filtering with a square edge-filter prior to momentum-resolved imaging. The momentum-resolved PL-spectra are recorded with an Andor Shamrock 500i spectrograph equipped with an Andor iXon 888 EMCCD camera.

Data availability

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding authors upon request.

Change history

02 March 2023A Correction to this paper has been published:

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Author information

Authors and Affiliations

ARC Centre of Excellence in Future Low-Energy Electronics Technologies and Department of Quantum Science and Technology, Research School of Physics, The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, 2601, Australia

M. Wurdack, T. Yun, E. A. Ostrovskaya & E. Estrecho

Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria, 3800, Australia

T. Yun

Songshan Lake Materials Laboratory, Dongguan, 523808, Guangdong, China

T. Yun

Institute of Physics, Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing, 100190, China

T. Yun

Nichtlineare Optik und Quantenelektronik, Institut für Theoretische Physik, Technische Universität Berlin, 10623, Berlin, Germany

M. Katzer, A. Knorr & M. Selig

Department of Quantum Science and Technology, Research School of Physics, The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, 2601, Australia

A. G. Truscott

Contributions

M.W., E.A.O. and E.E. conceived and supervised the project. M.W., T.Y. and E.E. designed and fabricated the samples, performed the measurements, and analysed the experimental results with input from E.A.O. and A.G.T. E.E., M.W. and E.O.A. developed and analysed the phenomenological model. M.K., A.K. and M.S. developed the microscopic theory and performed numerical investigations. M.W., E.A.O. and E.E. wrote the paper with input from all authors.

Corresponding authors

Correspondence to M. Wurdack, E. A. Ostrovskaya or E. Estrecho.

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6y ago

[MKULTRA_Escaper](#)

Here is a list of some incidents in which government agents confiscated photographs, video, or other UFO evidence.

Although this list is not exhaustive since I have read such stories countless times, I think there is enough material here to firmly establish that the "Men in Black" in fact exist. I would define the Men in Black as an official or unofficial group of government agents that confiscate as much of the best UFO evidence as they can. You can find a lot more of these with a search engine and the right keywords.

Perhaps the most insane example is Roswell 1947 in which civilians and radio show hosts were threatened with death or loss of employment, and UFO crash debris was switched out with weather balloon wreckage. This is backed up by tons of first hand testimony from people directly involved, but I'm sure most here are already aware of this. The rest of this post will be lesser-known incidents that follow the same modus operandi.

Former Phoenix City Councilwoman, Frances Barwood, discusses her unexpected role in the startling mass sighting that occurred over Arizona in 1997, commonly referred to as the "Phoenix Lights." A man by the name of Richard Curtis filmed the craft with professional equipment and wanted to make a copy of the footage for Barwood. Before he could make a copy, several men in black suits showed up at his residence claiming to be from Barwood's office and they wanted the original footage. They claimed they would make copies, then return the original. Curtis called Barwood weeks later and asked if she received the footage, but she didn't and said she only had several female staffers. Video of barwood's testimony: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kj50i3GcTQE>

In 1956, Rex Heflin took 4 photographs of a UFO in one of the most famous UFO cases. The copy negatives were obtained from Heflin under false pretenses by someone pretending to be from the North American Air Defense Command. 32 years later, they were strangely mailed back to Heflin, confirming that the "model and string" debunking was nonsense.

https://www.nicap.org/reports/Goodbye_Rex_Heflin.pdf

High level FAA whistleblower John Callahan says government agents confiscated a bunch of evidence from a 1986 UFO case he was involved in, and the agents told everyone "this didn't happen." He made copies of the evidence and released this publicly. Video of Callahan's testimony and presented evidence:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4WTid300VE>

Prof. Robert Jacobs and Stanford researcher Dr. Florenze J. Mansmann say two "men in grey suits" confiscated video proof of a UFO disabling an ICBM in 1964. Mansmann was then an Air Force Major when the incident occurred: Video of Jacobs' testimony: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4wL4lbwvNU>

The Westall Incident: Barbara Robbins, the chemistry teacher at Westall, took pictures of a UFO, but government agents confiscated the camera and film. - according to Graham Simmonds, another Westall witness. Covered here at the 12 min mark in Westall '66: A Suburban UFO Mystery: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBIItCn3m7Rc>

Navy UFO mystery deepens amid disclosure that 'unknown individuals' told officers to erase evidence <https://www.foxnews.com/science/navy-ufo-mystery-deepens>

Nick Pope on the Missing Calvin UFO photo: "The Calvin UFO photo is the most spectacular UFO photo ever sent to the Ministry of Defence. It's also missing... There was a running joke that we didn't care if a craft such as the one shown in the Calvin UFO photo was American, Russian or Martian - all we knew was that it was better than anything we had and that we wanted the technology for our own military aircraft and drones... I asked my DIS opposite number about the image. I was told that the official assessment was that the photos were real and the craft had a diameter of around 25 metres (over 80 feet). At one particularly surreal briefing on the UFO phenomenon my DIS opposite number indicated the photo and pointed his finger to the right: "It's not the Americans", he said, before pointing to the left and saying "and it's not the Russians". There was a pause, before he concluded "and that only leaves ..." - his voice trailed off and he didn't complete the sentence, but his finger was pointing directly upwards... What happened next? The suspicion was that someone had shredded the photo, but whatever the truth of the matter, it was never seen again... I don't know if the photos or negatives will ever turn up, but I certainly hope they do. Because whatever peoples' views on UFOs, these are the photos that changed the minds of numerous skeptical civil servants, military personnel and intelligence specialists at MoD. I should know. I was one of them." <https://web.archive.org/web/20120324193601/http://nickpope.net/calvine-ufo-photo.htm>

Edit: Removed bad link, fixed Rex Helfin link

63

.

15

Comments Section

Spacecowboy78

•

6y ago

I pictured the MOD guy pointing up while letting that sentence hang, unfinished, and now i want to see that damn pic.

1

Merpadurp

•

6y ago

I've never heard of the Calvin UFO photo but it sounds like it was the closest to a "smoking gun" that ever existed.

Very unfortunate

7

u/lighthawk16 avatar

lighthawk16

•

4y ago

Look for "calvine" here in this sub. You'll find lots of recreations and a supposed low-res version of it.

1

brassmorris

•

4y ago

The low res version is a photocopy of a pencil drawing I believe. I know its ridiculous isn't it, perhaps it's meant to be...

1

1 more reply

[deleted]

•

6y ago

MIB are real. Yes, there is most likely some embellishment from people but I don't believe their intent is to deceive. I believe they are caught off guard by the sudden appearance of "official" people who make concise demands that it becomes a surreal moment for them. Then upon retelling the event it tends to take on a more sinister tone.

Even after 9/11 the owner of the gas station across from the Pentagon told the story how literally minutes after the "plane" hit the Pentagon how 2 men dressed in black suits appeared identifying themselves as FBI and confiscated his security camera footage.

How does the "FBI" know there is security camera footage at a gas station across from the Pentagon minutes after the impact and all while in the midst of 9/11 occurring?

9/11 conspiracies aside...that one story has ALWAYS sat weird with me.

5

u/Jimmyhunter1000 avatar

Jimmyhunter1000

•

6y ago

If I recall correctly, there was also a hotel video camera recording that shares a similar story on 9/11. It had captured the crash at the pentagon, but was swiftly MiB'ed within minutes.

3

broscan

•

6y ago

MIB are psychics. A group of Psychics that have connections to government and to some visitors. They keep things private.

2

[deleted]

•

6y ago

How ironic you should classify MIBs as psychics. A number of years ago I had an epiphany they were clairvoyants.

1

ZincFishExplosion

•

6y ago

Not exactly the same, but both Nick Mariana and Delbert Newhouse voluntarily gave the Air Force UFO videos that they had shot for analysis. Both also claimed their films were returned with frames missing. This was back in the early 50's.

2

TheCoastalCardician

•

4y ago

Hey, do you happen to know where to find that interview with the younger US Marine that was on a crash recovery?

I thought it was involved in that same Sirius collection as Callaghan's you shared above, but I can't find it!

From the 90s or early 00s, I believe he described "claw marks" or "vents". Sound familiar at all?

2

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

4y ago

That's one of my favorites.

Lance Corporal Jonathan Weygandt. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOwhJ4fJoWk&t=22s>

Edit: fixed link.

3

TheCoastalCardician

•

4y ago

Thanks, Dude!

I've shown this to some Marine buddies and they agree with the other Marines who've said this kid served. Based off of how he talks about this stuff. It's also possible to act that real, of course, but he would've had to "spend a shit ton of time 'round us" is what I believe I was told lol.

This is also why it's important to try and find answers everywhere, even if the source is through a figure that is controversial. Many of those interviews are gold.

Hal's comments on the person that went on record saying he helped pass out ET tech is very interesting. I wish I could see that entire interview without edits! (can't remember the fella's name:/)

Thanks again!

Edit: For me— "UFO crash in Peru"

1

HeyPScott

•

6y ago

That Barwood account is new to me. Thanks, MK.

4

u/_Tyger_Tyger avatar

_Tyger_Tyger

•

6y ago

i don't think you have ESTABLISHED anything at all, all you have done is seen a few instances and noted them down.

1

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20

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The Secretary of Defence of the sitting US government disclosed UFOs are real, this IS disclosure.

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1.9K upvotes · 202 comments

I put together a blog of the best UFO photos ever taken (in my opinion!)

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4mo ago

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3mo ago

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4mo ago

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tip

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co

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9mo ago

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I think this is a legit UFO

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4

83 comments

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7mo ago

Brazil has released their UFO files

r/ufo - Brazil has released their UFO files

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2mo ago

Why would UFOs have lights?

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Forever

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r/ufo - Ufos are not what you think.

53 comments

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Here is a list of some incidents in which government agents confiscated photographs, video, or other UFO evidence. : r/ufo

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6y ago

MKULTRA_Escap

Here is a list of some incidents in which government agents confiscated photographs, video, or other UFO evidence.

Although this list is not exhaustive since I have read such stories countless times, I think there is enough material here to firmly establish that the "Men in Black" in fact exist. I would define the Men in Black as an official or unofficial group of government agents that confiscate as much of the best UFO evidence as they can. You can find a lot more of these with a search engine and the right keywords.

Perhaps the most insane example is Roswell 1947 in which civilians and radio show hosts were threatened with death or loss of employment, and UFO crash debris was switched out with weather balloon wreckage. This is backed up by tons of first hand testimony from people directly involved, but I'm sure most here are already aware of this. The rest of this post will be lesser-known incidents that follow the same modus operandi.

Former Phoenix City Councilwoman, Frances Barwood, discusses her unexpected role in the startling mass sighting that occurred over Arizona in 1997, commonly referred to as the "Phoenix Lights." A man by the name of Richard Curtis filmed

the craft with professional equipment and wanted to make a copy of the footage for Barwood. Before he could make a copy, several men in black suits showed up at his residence claiming to be from Barwood's office and they wanted the original footage. They claimed they would make copies, then return the original. Curtis called Barwood weeks later and asked if she received the footage, but she didn't and said she only had several female staffers. Video of barwood's testimony: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kj50i3GcTQE>

In 1956, Rex Heflin took 4 photographs of a UFO in one of the most famous UFO cases. The copy negatives were obtained from Heflin under false pretenses by someone pretending to be from the North American Air Defense Command. 32 years later, they were strangely mailed back to Heflin, confirming that the "model and string" debunking was nonsense.
https://www.nicap.org/reports/Goodbye_Rex_Heflin.pdf

High level FAA whistleblower John Callahan says government agents confiscated a bunch of evidence from a 1986 UFO case he was involved in, and the agents told everyone "this didn't happen." He made copies of the evidence and released this publicly. Video of Callahan's testimony and presented evidence:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4WTid300VE>

Prof. Robert Jacobs and Stanford researcher Dr. Florenze J. Mansmann say two "men in grey suits" confiscated video proof of a UFO disabling an ICBM in 1964. Mansmann was then an Air Force Major when the incident occurred: Video of Jacobs' testimony: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4wL4lbwwNU>

The Westall Incident: Barbara Robbins, the chemistry teacher at Westall, took pictures of a UFO, but government agents confiscated the camera and film. - according to Graham Simmonds, another Westall witness. Covered here at the 12 min mark in Westall '66: A Suburban UFO Mystery: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBIcCn3m7Rc>

Navy UFO mystery deepens amid disclosure that 'unknown individuals' told officers to erase evidence <https://www.foxnews.com/science/navy-ufo-mystery-deepens>

Nick Pope on the Missing Calvin UFO photo: "The Calvin UFO photo is the most spectacular UFO photo ever sent to the Ministry of Defence. It's also missing...There was a running joke that we didn't care if a craft such as the one shown in the Calvin UFO photo was American, Russian or Martian - all we knew was that it was better than anything we had and that we wanted the technology for our own military aircraft and drones... I asked my DIS opposite number about the image. I was told that the official assessment was that the photos were real and the craft had a diameter of around 25 metres (over 80 feet). At one particularly surreal briefing on the UFO phenomenon my DIS opposite number indicated the photo and pointed his finger to the right: "It's not the Americans", he said, before pointing to the left and saying "and it's not the Russians". There was a pause, before he concluded "and that only leaves ..." - his voice trailed off and he didn't complete the sentence, but his finger was pointing directly upwards... What happened next? The suspicion was that someone had shredded the photo, but whatever the truth of the matter, it was never seen again... I don't know if the photos or negatives will ever turn up, but I certainly hope they do. Because whatever peoples' views on UFOs, these are the photos that changed the minds of numerous skeptical civil servants, military personnel and intelligence specialists at MoD. I should know. I was one of them." <https://web.archive.org/web/20120324193601/http://nickpope.net/calvine-ufo-photo.htm>

Edit: Removed bad link, fixed Rex Helfin link

63

.

15

Comments Section

Spacecowboy78

•

6y ago

I pictured the MOD guy pointing up while letting that sentence hang, unfinished, and now i want to see that damn pic.

1

Merpadurp

•

6y ago

I've never heard of the Calvin UFO photo but it sounds like it was the closest to a "smoking gun" that ever existed.

Very unfortunate

7

u/lighthawk16 avatar

lighthawk16

•

4y ago

Look for "calvine" here in this sub. You'll find lots of recreations and a supposed low-res version of it.

1

brassmorris

•

4y ago

The low res version is a photocopy of a pencil drawing I believe. I know its ridiculous isn't it, perhaps it's meant to be...

1

1 more reply

[deleted]

•

6y ago

MIB are real. Yes, there is most likely some embellishment from people but I don't believe their intent is to deceive. I believe they are caught off guard by the sudden appearance of "official" people who make concise demands that it becomes a surreal moment for them. Then upon retelling the event it tends to take on a more sinister tone.

Even after 9/11 the owner of the gas station across from the Pentagon told the story how literally minutes after the "plane" hit the Pentagon how 2 men dressed in black suits appeared identifying themselves as FBI and confiscated his security camera footage.

How does the "FBI" know there is security camera footage at a gas station across from the Pentagon minutes after the impact and all while in the midst of 9/11 occurring?

9/11 conspiracies aside...that one story has ALWAYS sat weird with me.

5

u/Jimmyhunter1000 avatar

Jimmyhunter1000

•

6y ago

If I recall correctly, there was also a hotel video camera recording that shares a similar story on 9/11. It had captured the crash at the pentagon, but was swiftly MiB'ed within minutes.

3
broscan

•

6y ago

MIB are psychics. A group of Psychics that have connections to government and to some visitors. They keep things private.

2
[deleted]

•

6y ago

How ironic you should classify MIBs as psychics. A number of years ago I had an epiphany they were clairvoyants.

1
ZincFishExplosion

•

6y ago

Not exactly the same, but both Nick Mariana and Delbert Newhouse voluntarily gave the Air Force UFO videos that they had shot for analysis. Both also claimed their films were returned with frames missing. This was back in the early 50's.

2
TheCoastalCardician

•

4y ago

Hey, do you happen to know where to find that interview with the younger US Marine that was on a crash recovery?

I thought it was involved in that same Sirius collection as Callaghan's you shared above, but I can't find it!

From the 90s or early 00s, I believe he described "claw marks" or "vents". Sound familiar at all?

2
u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee
OP

•

4y ago

That's one of my favorites.

Lance Corporal Jonathan Weygandt. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOwhJ4fJowk&t=22s>

Edit: fixed link.

3
TheCoastalCardician

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4y ago

Thanks, Dude!

I've shown this to some Marine buddies and they agree with the other Marines who've said this kid served. Based off of how he talks about this stuff. It's also possible to act that real, of course, but he would've had to "spend a shit ton of time 'round us" is what I believe I was told lol.

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_Tyger_Tyger

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officers to erase evidence
By Chris Ciaccia Fox News
Published November 15, 2019 12:01pm EST
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UFO videos released by former Blink-182 singer acknowledged as 'real'
unidentified objects by US Navy
Three videos, originally released by former Blink-182 singer Tom DeLonge and
published by the New York Times, depict pilot encounters with UFOs on Nov. 14,
2004, and Jan. 21, 2015.

The U.S. Navy's acknowledgment that the 2004 videos of an encounter with a UFO
were real has caused much consternation. Now, a new report says two "unknown
individuals" told several Naval officers who witnessed the event, known as the
USS Nimitz UFO incident, to delete evidence.

The report, published in Popular Mechanics, cites interviews with five Navy veterans who discussed what they experienced at the time while they were sailing on the USS Princeton on Nov. 14, 2004, off the coast of southern California.

One of the men, Gary Voorhis, said he was chatting with some of the radar techs on the USS Princeton when he heard them talking about "ghost tracks" and "clutter" on the radar system, a state-of-the-art Cooperative Engagement Capability (CEC) and AEGIS Combat System.

PENTAGON FINALLY ADMITS IT INVESTIGATES UFOS

The air control systems were taken down, recalibrated to clear out the supposed false alarms when the tracks got clearer, he said.

US Navy confirms multiple UFO videos are realVideo

"Once we finished all the recalibration and brought it back up, the tracks were actually sharper and clearer," Voorhis told the news outlet. "Sometimes they'd be at an altitude of 80,000 or 60,000 feet. Other times they'd be around 30,000 feet, going like 100 knots. Their radar cross sections didn't match any known aircraft; they were 100 percent red. No squawk, no IFF (Identification Friend or Foe)."

Operations Specialist Senior Chief Kevin Day said in the documentary film, The Nimitz Encounters, that his job was to "man the radars and ID everything that flew in the skies."

On or around Nov. 10, approximately 100 miles off the San Diego coast, Day noticed the stranger tracks on the radar.

"The reason why I say they're weird [is] because they were appearing in groups of five to 10 at a time and they were pretty closely spaced to each other. And there were 28,000 feet going a hundred knots tracking south," Day said in the documentary.

The Navy eventually sent out fighter jets to get a look at the object, with one succeeding in getting it on video--the now-famous black-and-white tape that was released publicly in 2017. Along with that tape, there were two other video recordings from years later that were released publicly by the New York Times, Fox News has previously reported.

The videos in question, known as "FLIR1," "Gimbal" and "GoFast," were originally released to the New York Times and to The Stars Academy of Arts & Science, co-founded by former Blink 182 rocker Tom DeLonge.

FORMER US DEFENSE OFFICIAL: WE KNOW UFOS ARE REAL - HERE'S WHY THAT'S CONCERNING

The first video of the unidentified object was taken on Nov. 14, 2004, and shot by the F-18's gun camera. The second video was taken on Jan. 21, 2015, and shows another aerial vehicle with pilots commenting on how strange it is. The third video was also taken on Jan. 21, 2015, but it is unclear whether the third video was of the same object or a different one.

After the incident with the "Tic Tac"-shaped object that Voorhis said gave off "a kind of a phosphorus glow" at night while darting around, two "unknown individuals" took all of the data recordings.

"They were not on the ship earlier, and I didn't see them come on. I'm not sure how they got there," said P.J. Hughes, who was miles away from the Princeton, and was unaware of the unidentified objects, in the interview.

Hughes added that he was told by his commanding officer to turn over the recently secured hard drives of the airborne early-warning aircraft, the E-2 Hawkeye.

"We put them in the bags, he took them, then he and the two anonymous officers left," Hughes said.

UFO VIDEOS ARE FOOTAGE OF REAL 'UNIDENTIFIED' OBJECTS, US NAVY ACKNOWLEDGES

On the Princeton, Voorhis described a similar situation.

"These two guys show up on a helicopter, which wasn't uncommon, but shortly after they arrived, maybe 20 minutes, I was told by my chain of command to turn over all the data recordings for the AEGIS system," Voorhis added in the interview with Popular Mechanics.

It may be convenient to blame "unknown individuals" for the disappearance of the tapes, but Cmdr. David Fravor, one of the pilots who was able to get a close view of the object, said people accidentally erased and recorded over them.

"You know how it is when you go to and from cruise," Fravor said in a January interview on The Fighter Pilot Podcast. "Someone goes, 'What are these? Hey, they look like blank 8mm tapes. We'll just use them.'"

Earlier this year, the Navy issued new classified guidelines on how to report such instances "in response to unknown, advanced aircraft flying into or near Navy strike groups or other sensitive military facilities and formations."

The Defense Department also briefed Senate Intelligence Committee Vice Chairman Mark Warner, D-Va., in June, along with two other senators, as part of what appeared to be heightened efforts to inform politicians about naval encounters with unidentified aircraft.

BLINK-182 FOUNDER'S UFO HUNTING GROUP CLINCHES DEAL WITH ARMY TO STUDY 'EXOTIC MATERIAL'

Warner's spokesperson indicated that the senator sought to probe safety concerns surrounding "unexplained interference" naval pilots faced, according to Politico. The outlet reported more briefings were being requested as news surfaced that the Navy revised its procedures for personnel reporting on unusual aircraft sightings.

President Trump said he has been briefed on Navy pilots' reported sightings of unidentified flying objects, but remained skeptical of the existence of UFOs.

"I want them to think whatever they think," Trump told ABC News' George Stephanopolous earlier this year, referring to the Navy pilots. "I did have one very brief meeting on it. But people are saying they're seeing UFOs. Do I believe it? Not particularly."

In December 2017, Fox News reported that the Pentagon had secretly set up a program to investigate UFOs at the request of former Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., who expressed his desire earlier this year for lawmakers to hold public hearings into what the military knows.

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Fox News' Bradford Betz, Louis Casiano and Sam Dorman contributed to this report.

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<http://nickpope.net/calvine-ufo-photo.htm>

67 captures

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About this capture
The Calvin UFO Photo

By Nick Pope

The Calvin UFO photo is the most spectacular UFO photo ever sent to the Ministry of Defence. It's also missing. This is the story of what happened.

The saga began on 4 August 1990 when two members of the public out walking in the vicinity of Calvin, near Pitlochry, in Scotland, sighted a massive, diamond-shaped, metallic UFO. The UFO was virtually stationary and hovered silently for what the witnesses believed was several minutes, before accelerating away vertically at massive speed. During the sighting, a military aircraft, believed to be a Harrier, was seen, but it wasn't clear if it was escorting the craft, attempting to intercept it, or whether the pilot was ever aware of it at all.

A number of colour photographs were taken and passed to the Scottish Daily Record, who in contacted the MoD, probably because they were seeking a comment for the story. It's not clear what happened next, because I didn't join MoD's UFO project until 1991 and this investigation was handled by my predecessor. It seems that, somehow, MoD managed to persuade the reporter to part with not just the photos, but the negatives.

The photos were then sent to the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) who then sent them on to imagery analysts at JARIC (Joint Air Reconnaissance Intelligence Centre). Yet at the time, MoD hadn't even publicly acknowledged that there was any intelligence interest in UFOs at all. The whole situation was positively Orwellian. On the one hand, on the one hand, our line to Parliament, the media and the public was that UFOs were of "no defence significance". We implied and sometimes stated that we didn't "investigate" UFOs, but merely "examined sightings to see if anything reported was of any defence interest" - as if the two were somehow different! I sometimes felt like Winston Smith working for the Ministry of Truth. This was - literally - doublethink.

So why the MoD interest and secrecy? Though we'd never say so publicly, the bottom line was that we wanted the technology. We were interested in UFO photos such as these in case they could tell us something about propulsion systems, energy sources, avionics systems, aerodynamics, etc. There was a running joke that we didn't care if a craft such as the one shown in the Calvin UFO photo was American, Russian or Martian - all we knew was that it was better than anything we had and that we wanted the technology for our own military aircraft and drones.

I first came across this story in 1991, when I joined the UFO project. A poster-sized enlargement of the best photo was prominently displayed on the office

wall. I worked in a four-person office my predecessor had put it up. It was one of the few visible UFO-related items on display; most stuff was locked away. The office dealt with some other issues too; most of us had been seconded into the Air Force Operations Room during the 1990/91 Gulf War. After the war one of my jobs was to read draft book manuscripts that had to do with Air Force aspects of the war, to ensure nothing classified, detrimental to the Service or embarrassing went in. Sometimes, people would come to our office to discuss non-UFO business and some of these people weren't aware that the UFO project was embedded in the section. You'd have this surreal moment when they'd stop mid-sentence, stare at it, point and say "what the hell's that?" - this wasn't the archetypal distant, blurred UFO photo. This was up close and personal, reach out and you can touch it stuff. "I don't know what it is, but it's not one of ours" was our stock answer to the inevitable question.

The X-Files first aired in the UK in 1994 and I acquired the same nickname (Spooky) as Fox Mulder, for obvious reasons. Mulder famously had his "I want to believe" UFO poster on his office wall and though uncaptioned, I suppose this was my equivalent. Word got around and people would swing by to take a look, even when they had no obvious business in our section.

I asked my DIS opposite number about the image. I was told that the official assessment was that the photos were real and the craft had a diameter of around 25 metres (over 80 feet). At one particularly surreal briefing on the UFO phenomenon my DIS opposite number indicated the photo and pointed his finger to the right: "It's not the Americans", he said, before pointing to the left and saying "and it's not the Russians". There was a pause, before he concluded "and that only leaves ..." - his voice trailed off and he didn't complete the sentence, but his finger was pointing directly upwards.

Despite this sensational conclusion, MoD documents show that if the media asked, the line to take on this was to be that "no definite conclusion had been reached regarding the large diamond-shaped object".

At some point in 1994 my Head of Division (a civilian, equivalent in rank to a One Star military officer and long-since retired) had somehow convinced himself that the craft was a secret, prototype aircraft or drone - probably American. But in response to repeated sightings of triangular-shaped UFOs capable of hovering and then accelerating away rapidly at high-Mach speeds, we'd just received assurances from the appropriate US authorities that the US wasn't testing anything like this over the UK. On the basis of these assurances, Defence Ministers had assured Parliament that no such aircraft/drones were being flown - so perhaps my Head of Division thought this was a lie and thought he was being loyal when one day he took the photo away and locked it in his desk drawer. On the other hand, he was probably the one who drafted the Parliamentary assurances, so maybe he was just covering his back.

What happened next? The suspicion was that someone had shredded the photo, but whatever the truth of the matter, it was never seen again. The same thing had happened with some Defence Intelligence Staff files on the Rendlesham Forest UFO incident that it turned out had been inadvertently destroyed and I was in the same position again: I think some people thought I'd put all this stuff through the shredder myself, but I promise I didn't.

This was some years before the UK got its Freedom of Information Act. At the time, shredding the photo - if that's what happened - would probably have been a legitimate (albeit unfortunate) action. If such an action happened post-FOI and was a deliberate attempt to circumnavigate the Act, it would have been illegal.

Ufologists first came across this story in 1996 when I mentioned it briefly in my first book, *Open Skies Closed Minds*. The story broke in the media in March 2009, when the MoD released the third batch of UFO files to the National Archives, as part of the wider program to declassify and release the entire archive of UFO files. As I'd worked on MoD's UFO project and had been involved in the release of the files as the media's 'go-to guy' for anything on UFOs, I

was asked about the matter by numerous media outlets. A detailed article on this story ran in The Scotsman and on the Sky News Website - though many others covered the story too. The story received further publicity in 2012 with coverage in the Huffington Post and The Scottish Daily Record - as well as The Sun - which continues to champion the UFO issue.

Despite the various media interviews that I did on this story, and associated public appeals, the witnesses have never come forward. Neither has anyone at the Scottish Daily Record (or any other Scottish newspaper) come forward to say that they worked on this story back in 1990. Understandably, this has generated a few conspiracy theories. I wonder if the truth is a little more mundane. In their desperation to acquire the photos/negatives (and maybe kill the story), maybe DIS staff somehow tricked the journalist into handing over all the material and never gave it back. If the journalist hadn't brief the editor, he may have stayed silent out of embarrassment. Similarly, maybe the witnesses were told that it would be better if they didn't discuss what they'd seen and took this as a threat.

The MoD files that contain documents relating to this case have been released and are available at the National Archives, though MoD says that no trace has been found of the images, aside from one poor quality photocopy of a line drawing that was done as part of the original MoD investigation. The documents can be found in the following National Archives files:

DEFE 24/1940/1 - page 114
DEFE 31/179/1 - pages 157-8
DEFE 31/180 - pages 55-57
DEFE 31/180/1 - pages 37-38

I don't know if the photos or negatives will ever turn up, but I certainly hope they do. Because whatever peoples' views on UFOs, these are the photos that changed the minds of numerous skeptical civil servants, military personnel and intelligence specialists at MoD. I should know. I was one of them.

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For the record, that there has been a UFO coverup is already an established fact. : r/UFOs

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For the record, that there has been a UFO coverup is already an established fact.

There are two main, separate UFO phenomena that exist independently of one another. 1) Secret military aircraft, and 2) apparently highly technologically advanced aerial objects that outperform even our secret military aircraft.

In 1997, the CIA openly admitted that they lied about UFOs and spread propaganda to debunk UFO sightings, although they only admitted to covering up secret

military aircraft. If the CIA admitted to covering up one of these, would a reasonable person believe that they wouldn't also cover up the other?

Pay close attention to the timeline here, the most important factor that reveals what was going on.

[Edit: I should have began with this:

According to Senator Barry Goldwater, UFO information (or at least some portion of it) is classified "Above Top Secret." According to a then Top Secret 1950 memo, the Canadian Project Magnet head (of a UFO program) Wilbert B. Smith was informed that "the matter is the most highly classified subject in the United States government, rating higher even than the H-bomb."

According to a January 31, 1949 FBI memorandum to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover from the FBI San Antonio field office:

"This matter is considered Top Secret by Intelligence Officers of both the Army and the Air Forces."]

The fact of the UFO coverup:

Rather than acknowledging the existence of the top-secret [U-2 and SR-71] flights or saying nothing about them publicly, the Air Force decided to put out false cover stories, the C.I.A. study says. For instance, unusual observations that were actually spy flights were attributed to atmospheric phenomena like ice crystals and temperature inversions.

'Over half of all U.F.O. reports from the late 1950's through the 1960's were accounted for by manned reconnaissance flights' over the United States, the C.I.A. study says. 'This led the Air Force to make misleading and deceptive statements to the public in order to allay public fears and to protect an extraordinarily sensitive national security project.'
<https://www.nytimes.com/1997/08/03/us/cia-admits-government-lied-about-ufo-sightings.html> (archive of article here)

They reiterated this again in a misleading 2014 tweet on the CIA twitter account. "Remember reports of unusual activity in the skies in the '50s? That was us." <https://twitter.com/CIA/status/484429844777037824>

NOTE: The claim that "half of UFOs were spy flights" is clearly not true. Not only is that claim preposterous, it has also been debunked:
https://np.reddit.com/user/MKULTRA_Escapee/comments/1bqayw0/metabunk_looks_at_the_claim_half_of_ufos_in_the/ This means that the Air Force's deliberately false explanations for UFOs were not plausibly justified in order to cover up U-2 flights. Therefore, they were just covering up UFOs.

The Robertson Panel Report lays out a very well-thought out coverup plan of UFOs in 1953, several years before the first flight of the U-2 anyway:

After a closed-door session with a scientific advisory panel chaired by H.P. Robertson from the California Institute of Technology, the C.I.A. issued a secret report recommending a broad educational program for all intelligence agencies, with the aim of "training and debunking."

Training meant more public education on how to identify known objects in the sky. "The use of true cases showing first the 'mystery' and then the 'explanation' would be forceful," the report said. Debunking "would be accomplished by mass media such as television, motion pictures, and popular articles."

That plan involved using psychologists, advertising experts, amateur astronomers and even Disney cartoons to create propaganda to reduce public interest. And civilian U.F.O. groups should be "watched," the report stated, because of their

"great influence on mass thinking if widespread sightings should occur."

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/15/arts/television/project-blue-book-history-true-story.html> (archive of article here)

One criticism of this document is that it was merely a plan, not an admission of that plan in practice, but as you can see from the 1997 "CIA Study," it clearly was put into practice, but there is other supporting evidence of that. For example, I would highly recommend reviewing this 1979 New York Times article, which was based on then recently released documents through FOIA back when the act had teeth. Some excerpts:

Despite official pronouncements for decades that U.F.O.'s were nothing more than misidentified aerial objects and as such were no cause for alarm, recently declassified U.F.O. records from the C.I.A., the F.B.I. and other Federal agencies indicate that, ever since U.F.O.'s made their appearance in our skies in the 1940's, the phenomenon has aroused much serious behind-the-scenes concern in official circles.

Even the possibility that these unknowns could be evidence of extraterrestrial visitations has been given serious attention in Government circles.

But it is the C.I.A. that appears to have played the key role in the controversy, and may even be responsible for the Government's conduct in U.F.O. investigations throughout the years.

As the cold war gave rise to the fears of the McCarthy era, official concern over U.F.O.'s even led to the surveillance of several private U.F.O. organizations (as many of their members have long insisted) and to the scrutiny of dozens of individuals suspected of subversive U.F.O. activities.
<https://www.nytimes.com/1979/10/14/archives/ufo-files-the-untold-story.html>
(archive of article here)

If you're familiar with UFO history, you'd see how absurd it is to take the CIA's "it was just our aircraft" narrative seriously. The U-2 was flying from 1955 onward, and the SR-71 in the 60s. What about the first half of the 50s, almost the entire decade of the 1940s (foo fighters, etc), and all of the sightings going back millennia? Some choice examples of historical UFO sightings here:

https://np.reddit.com/r/HighStrangeness/comments/14i2ztm/ufo_shapes_changed_over_time_seems_to_be_a_myth/ In one example, we now know that a mass sighting of a "dull, silvery disk" was witnessed in 1917, way before the modern flying saucer/UFO era, which began 30 years later, but many such sightings have occurred throughout history.

It should be noted that in a memo in 1947, General Nathan Twining wrote to Brig. General George Schulgen:

It is the opinion that:

"The phenomenon is something real and not visionary or fictitious."

"The reported operating characteristics such as extreme rates of climb, maneuverability (particularly in roll), and action which must be considered evasive when sighted ... lend belief to the possibility that some of the objects are controlled either manually, automatically, or remotely."

e. The apparent common description is as follows: (1) Metallic or light reflecting surface. (2) Absence of trail, except in a few instances where the object apparently was operating under high performance conditions. (3) Circular or elliptical in shape, flat on bottom and domed on top.

<https://archive.org/details/twinning-memo/mode/2up>

Note: Detractors will claim that Kenneth Arnold didn't actually see discs,

suggesting that the entire flying saucer phenomenon was caused by "media hysteria," therefore the above document drew incorrect conclusions. However, Kenneth Arnold did appear to see flying discs (or 95 percent discs) going by his original statements, audio interview, and his original drawing he made for the Army. But since his story changed over time, people select the claims he made years later as being more accurate, even though memory fades over time, not the opposite.

Supplementary material further establishing the UFO coverup:

In a 1960 letter to Congress, Vice Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter, who was first Director of the CIA (1947-1950), stated:

"Behind the scenes, high-ranking Air Force officers are soberly concerned about UFOs. But through official secrecy and ridicule, many citizens are led to believe the unknown flying objects are nonsense. To hide the facts, the Air Force has silenced its personnel." Full New York Times article:

<https://imgur.com/a/ljgfJyx> (Paywalled link:

<https://www.nytimes.com/1960/02/28/archives/air-force-order-on-saucers-cited-pamphlet-by-the-inspector-general.html>)

If anyone was in a position to know what was really going on in the late 1940s, it was him.

Former Bluebook chief Edward Ruppelt was the first to reveal the existence and a summary of the proceedings and conclusions of the Robertson Panel Report in his 1956 book. The report was released years later. He also revealed several other then secret documents, including the 1948 Estimate of the Situation, which stated that the extraterrestrial hypothesis was the best explanation for flying saucers. This estimate was sent up the chain of command and subsequently destroyed, never to see the light of day.

Ruppelt also stated:

...It was the typical negative approach. I know that the negative approach is typical of the way that material is handed out by the Air Force because I was continually being told to "tell them about the sighting reports we've solved—don't mention the unknowns." I was never ordered to tell this, but it was a strong suggestion and in the military when higher headquarters suggests, you do. -The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects, by Edward J. Ruppelt, Air Force Director of Project Grudge and Blue Book [1956] - Chapter 5, page 62.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek (who later believed UFOs were non-human technology) was a government UFO debunker and scientific advisor to UFO studies from 1947-1969 (Sign, Grudge, and Bluebook). He later came clean about his involvement in the UFO coverup, stating Bluebook was told not to get the public excited, "don't rock the boat." Whenever a case came up that they could explain, let that out to the media/public. But for cases that were very difficult to explain, do everything you can to keep the media away from it. Bluebook had a job to do, rightly or wrongly, to keep the public from getting excited: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pyDVR2B14dw> After learning of the Bolender memo, Hynek remarked that "he felt very used."

According to the Bolender memo, any UFO reports which could affect national security went into a separate system from the public "Project Blue Book." There was a coverup within the coverup. Even those people responsible for studying UFOs and covering them up were themselves victims to yet another coverup. https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/urxzi5/stanton_friedman_on_usaf_brigadier_general/

Similar statements about UFO reports bypassing the BB system were made in AF documents going back to 1958-61, when similar efforts to justify closure of BB were made then. In an interview on March 16, 2000, retired BB chief Col. Robert J. Friend told me that he knew there were classified intelligence channels for

reporting UFO's that completely bypassed BB and he knew of specific UFO cases involving classified sensor systems that were reported that way and never went to him at BB. UFO's were reported to the AF operational commands in accordance the AF's Operational Reporting system, AFOREP, under AF Manual 55-11 of 1965 and predecessors, and this supplanted the UFO reporting directives that had sent UFO reports to BB. http://www.nicap.org/waves/bolender_memo3.htm

Here is Colonel William T. Coleman and Colonel Friend on the history of Blue Book and the mysterious disappearance from Bluebook of good UFO reports. Colonel Coleman states that while flying, he himself was basically "right on top" of a UFO, a "run of the mill flying saucer," but when he went looking for his report in the Bluebook files, it was nowhere to be found:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6kjhZKnt8w>

Note that the government claimed in 1969 they were no longer interested in studying and collecting information on UFOs. The above declassified Bolender memo proves that false.

From 1952 to 1954 (press release available one year later), Bluebook commissioned the Battelle Memorial Institute to analyze 3,200 UFO reports. This was known as Project Bluebook Special Report 14. They concluded that over 20 percent of the thousands of cases they looked at could not be identified after attempts to debunk them. The higher the quality of case, the more likely it could not be explained. A full third of the cases in the "excellent" category could not be identified. However, a fact such as this was detrimental to what they were trying to accomplish, so in 1955, the government put out a misleading press release on the study that only 3 percent of reports were unknowns, and the report itself wasn't available for many years. In the press release, they further claimed that if they had more information, that 3 percent would probably disappear, but this is directly contradicted by the findings of the report itself. The better the information and witnesses, the less likely they could explain the case. Why lie about it?

Actual conclusions of the report: of all cases, 22 percent were unknowns. 42 percent explained with certainty. 27 percent doubtfully explained. 9 percent insufficient information to make a determination.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Blue_Book#Project_Blue_Book_Special_Report_No._14

The original press release can be seen here, Oct 25, 1955:
<https://imgur.com/a/82GLY6r> Source here, page 43:
http://www.cufos.org/books/Air_Force_Project_Blue_Book_Special_Report_14R.pdf

Remember that the U-2 didn't even fly until after Bluebook 14 was completed. So what was flying around up there?

Edit: accuracy.

Edit 2: added information on Goldwater, Smith, and an FBI memo. Fixed links.

Edit 3: Updated several links, and a couple other edits to wording.

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440

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40
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Comments Section

u/Adventurous-Ear9433 avatar

Adventurous-Ear9433

•

4y ago

The way they try claiming the U2 & SR 71 explains away most sightings is bs. I think it's a possibility that Kelly Johnson, & Lockheed development of those specific aircraft was a result of studying UFOs. Here Kelly Johnson himself talking about a UFO sighting & bringing in the USAF to study this. I think alot of these guys got very wealthy from reverse engineering tech from these craft is partly responsible for all the secrecy. Not public outrage, national security, greed. Pretty much EVERY Aerospace company was secretly involved in this research, especially Lockheed. Also hilarious that the CIA contracted McDonnell Douglas in '70, to mimic UFOs. Project Skylite it was called

Upvote

36

Downvote

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u/Scatteredbrain avatar

Scatteredbrain

•

4y ago

•

Edited 4y ago

Profile Badge for the Achievement Top 1% Commenter Top 1% Commenter

according to the wilson memo they have had little to no progress at all reverse engineering alien technology

Upvote

11

Downvote

Reply

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

4y ago

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I tend to agree with that assessment for the simple fact that another civilization would likely be millions, perhaps billions of years more advanced. Reverse engineering that would be akin to a caveman trying to reverse engineer an iPhone. It's going to take hundreds or thousands of years at the very least, if not longer, before we have real success overall, but there probably has been a small amount of progress in certain areas, maybe like with metamaterials.

Eric Davis is also on audio talking about this here: <https://youtu.be/x4-JfM4rkRY>

Ross Coulthart, formerly of 60 Minutes Australia, has his own sources, including Nat Kobitz, the "chief geek for the US Navy" who admitted he was read into a UFO crash retrieval program, personally studied such highly technologically advanced debris, and was briefed that there were bodies. Kobitz stated "I could not explain what it was. Those metals were bonded at the atomic level."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sBE2pfPdlo> Coulthart also says he has spoken to over 20 sources who are aware of an attempt by the US to back-engineer such technology, and all of those people claim there was no real success. Because of this, Coulthart says he is "absolutely certain that the United States has recovered non-human technology."

And of course Leonard Stringfield, who had like 50 sources, which he covered in his books.

Upvote

28

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3 more replies

u/Adventurous-Ear9433 avatar

Adventurous-Ear9433

•

4y ago

Oh yea, I believe that for the most part they haven't quite cracked the code, but it's pretty obvious they know how things work at the very least. Ben Rich has alluded to this, Dr Robert Woods, Dir of McDonnell Douglas has as well. I think some physical material, such as nitinol was one of the few successes. The program, led to ARPANET, as well as getting the laser past just the theoretical phase as far as telecommunications go. (Dr CharlesKao/ITT)

IMHO, The lack of progress is partly the level of advancement of whomever created said exotic materials that these programs recovered being at least a few hundred thousand years ahead of our current knowledge. But alot of it is the result of the ultra-secrecy surrounding the phenomenon in general. The cover-up whether one argues it was for the good of the people, which I doubt, or just because the powers that be saw the potential for profit, influence, (RAND Corp is of the most influential organizations in the world) or superiority over other countries, it's come back to bite them in their ass for sure.

The scientific community claims there's no hard evidence of a topic they're scared to study, or even acknowledge publicly. Fear of ridicule from mainstream sciencd/academia as a result of purposely stigmatizing this subject + compartmentalization & lack of cooperation from competing Aerospace companies = running into a brick wall.

Upvote

4

Downvote

Reply

im_da_nice_guy

•

4y ago

Wilson only found one program. There could be many programs, all analyzing different pieces or different craft or whatever. If they work as described they

probably wouldnt even tell the programs about each other.

Upvote
3

Downvote

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2 more replies
zauraz

•

4y ago

Great work like always MK! You are a great asset to the community!!

Upvote
17

Downvote

Reply

u/braveoldfart777 avatar
braveoldfart777

•

4y ago

Great research here MK, thanks for the refresher course!!

Don't forget the 69 Condon Report "Trick" memo that Edward Condon wrote that turns up & was supposed to provide an unbiased report on what threat UAP were, & their conclusion stating exactly what the Air Force/government wanted it to say. Nothing to see here, move along.

Too many coincidentally slanted arguments for blatant ignoring of valid evidence not to look at a government coverup.

Upvote
23

Downvote

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u/Adventurous-Ear9433 avatar
Adventurous-Ear9433

•

4y ago

100% in agreement here. Condon Report such bs, it was 1969 when they claimed there was nothing to the phenomenon, & that all scientific work on the UFO problem, henceforth should make reference to the Condon Report. Meanwhile, in Dep Director of McDonnell Douglas documents there's a section called Competitors Efforts explaining the other major Aerospace companies involved in UFO programs, and Dr Woods states

"Hughes (10 men at Fullerton under Meiers);

-Lockheed Sunnyvale;

-Rand has proposed project (as have several other companies); Several companies

have UFO related efforts.

-Raytheon has had computer project from Condon (U. of Colo)"

So Raytheon was literally at the headquarters of the Condon Report, engaged in scientific research of UFOs. In direct contradiction to the report released a YEAR before.

Upvote

17

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u/braveoldfart777 avatar

braveoldfart777

•

4y ago

This is good information here. Didn't realize all that was happening during this period. Thanks for the additional research!👍

Upvote

2

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Reply

1 more reply

1 more reply

u/Astrocreep_1 avatar

Astrocreep_1

•

3y ago

After seeing this, I didn't realize how bad the numbers really were. In reality, approximately 54% of all cases fall into unexplained or poorly explained areas. If Swamp Gas is considered a "solved" or "known cause" case, I'd strongly dislike to see what "doubtfully explained" looks like.

The reality is that this study was funded, a fall guy provided with the name Hyneck, and they solved very few sightings. I'm sure if they had any kind of aircraft in the remote area at the time of the sighting, it was marked "explained with certainty".

Example: Case number BS-69 New Orleans, La.

Witness: "At about 7:00 PM(1900 hrs military)I saw a UFO hover over Lake Ponchatrain, only 50 feet above it. A light came out the bottom and it almost looked like it was vacuuming water."

BlueBook explanation: Witness saw a test run of the U-2 Spy Plane, flying at 50,000 feet over Biloxi, which is only about 90 miles east, at 1800 hrs. Case closed with certainty.

Upvote

7

Downvote

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u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

3y ago

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Yea, pretty much. I hinted at that a little bit here regarding AARO:

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/10avrn3/mick_west_is_making_the_rounds_this_morning_about/j46luwr/

They admit in the report they released that if they characterize a UFO as balloon-like or drone-like, that doesn't mean it was actually a balloon or a drone. UFOs are often debunked by simply picking the closest thing they can think of that is similar to it just like meteorites were explained as thunderstones and rocks thrown from volcanoes.

And this: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Blue_Book#Hynek's_criticism

And that is on top of the fact that a UFO sighting that affects national security was handled in an entirely separate channel, bypassing bluebook. The real percentage of "actual UFOs" could be as high as 30 percent or more, at least after subtracting low quality garbage that isn't worth paying attention to, which should be part of everyone's analysis of UFOs.

Upvote

5

Downvote

Reply

bevilthompson

•

4y ago

Great read! Very comprehensive and informative. The same powers that be who lied and covered this up for decades are now giving us "disclosure", I say we should be just as skeptical as to the veracity and motives for said disclosure knowing their track record.

Upvote

10

Downvote

Reply

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

4y ago

•

Edited 4y ago

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Absolutely agreed, but I would be careful to separate what is coming officially from the government versus what has been leaked.

For example, the narrative that the DoD authorized the release of those original three Navy videos is extremely misleading. Not only was the Flir1 video already leaked in 2007, then incorrectly "debunked" as CGI, the other two videos were also leaked. In fact, the majority of the other officially recorded videos we have, such as Aguadilla, Nellis, and others, were also leaked. See these citations:

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/qx0oz8/why_so_fewno_credible_leaks_of_hard_evidence/hl6jff05/

Some have said that they probably only gave us crappy videos on purpose, but it also appears that the "rotating glare" theory for the Gimbal video is incorrect: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9lOQkxMkW8>

Some examples of shady tactics used to discredit Elizondo, such as by deleting his emails that could have proven or disproven some of his claims: https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/ul9x4n/why_i_think_lue_knows_some_of_the_innermost/i7ugddy/

I sympathize with people who think government personnel apparently coming out on their own could be disinformation agents. How could I know either way? But so many of them have come out, the idea that most of them are disinformation agents is a much bigger conspiracy theory with apparently zero leaks, and therefore less likely than the incompetent coverup theory, which has many hundreds of leaks, something expected from large conspiracies. See here:

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/u9v40f/abc_news_the_us_government_is_completely/ (edit: unless you count Doty, an alleged smaller operation, and allegedly Von Braun, who both still claimed that some UFOs are extraterrestrial. I don't know the legitimacy of the Von Braun situation. I'm not aware of anybody who allegedly blew the whistle that any substantial portion of the whistleblowing is disinformation, but even if there were one or two, it would still be far simpler to argue that those people are themselves disinformation agents muddying the waters)

In my opinion, a lot of people in government, since many of them are probably themselves just recently learning about all of this as well, have their own unofficial "disclosure" going on, and the coverup group is just trying to hold back as best as they can. They seem to make concessions when you push them into a corner. Those navy videos were officially released after they were already public. For another example, the Robertson Panel Report was released after Ruppelt revealed it in his book.

Upvote
26

Downvote

Reply

u/Chuny_OK avatar
Chuny_OK

•

3y ago

This must be one of the best posts I've seen around here.

Upvote
3

Downvote

Reply

[deleted]

-

2y ago

they only admitted to covering up secret military aircraft

reasonable person believe

Misleading title. "They lied about x so they are lying about y" isn't fact it's logic fallacy.

Stay in school kids.

Upvote

3

Downvote

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u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

-

2y ago

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That was just to further bolster my argument. I was primarily interested in letting people know that the us government admits to giving deliberately false explanations for UFO sightings, something that UFO buffs know very well, but is probably contested by noobies. If you would have read further down the post instead of stopping after a couple of sentences, you'd see that this actually is a historical fact. The US government itself declassified the proof of both the UFO coverup and the blatant lie they told the public in 1969. Not to mention all of the peripheral information that lines right up with that.

Upvote

3

Downvote

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1 more reply

[deleted]

-

4y ago

If you're familiar with UFO history, you'd see how absurd it is to take the CIA's "it was just our aircraft" narrative seriously.

Forgive me - I'm a first hand UFO witness, not a Believer so a lot of these conventions strike me as somewhat quaint, but - why is this in any way more absurd than accepting the basis for your hypothesis is telling the truth - only to a point - and then completely theorizing about the perceived missing "other side" to the story about UFO's?

Not to put too fine a point on this - as individuals were all lovely people, witty, intelligent - fun, even - but as group the UFO Community is a joke - no threat to anyone, certainly not the DoD, the Government and certainly not the CIA.

This community thinks its tenable , whatever faction, deems us such a threat to

nations darkest secrets its sensible to go to any lengths to keep them covered up....

But yet, here we all are. Knowing all about them. Talking about them.

Can you understand the inherent problem I have here? I don't think UFO's exist - I bladdy know they do, I once stood not terribly far away from one and even underwent the head ache to prove it and not for a short time either.

I have actually no problem with the idea the CIA would use Flying Saucers as a way of passing off sightings of actually classified aircraft - most especially during the Cold War. I lived through that, I have a pristine memory of how actually scary the 50's-80's were.

Could these same people actually have covered up genuine UFO sightings by passing them off as classified projects?

Of course they could - there's no way to prove that they didn't but - even if they did, it's not necessarily to say these incidents were actually realised to be genuine UFO sightings simply presumed to be miss-identifications of classified projects and so passed off as such without actually realising they may actually have been UFO's to begin with.

It doesn't necessarily follow there's a sinister motive here - you administer a sub testament to the fact people misidentify perfectly ordinary, prosaic things all the time - convinced that what they saw and filmed was extraordinary and remarkable.

They're not.

A lot of these exact kinds of reports probably would have got swept up under the category of MFO and presumed miss-identification of classified inventory - look at the number of people convinced that stray balloon over London last weekend behaved strangely and couldn't be accounted for as anything other than a UAP.

I'd even include military and air-force reports in this because I've interviewed pilots and though - sure, they can be trusted with a good deal of accurate observation - they're not infallible, they do make mistakes and they're people, just like everyone else.

Their aren't unlimited resources available in any project - nobody in the CIA is going to have the time and resources to patiently sift through every last individual file that crosses a desk - if you're stated objective is to disguise genuine inventory sightings as UFO reports - anything remotely anomalous is just going to be filed under that heading and then - years later - you're probably going to find a lot of those reports actually weren't of classified inventory at all but UFO's.

But, that being said - you're own sub lies testament to the fact - most of those sightings equally won't of actually have been of actual UFO's either, just perfectly prosaic things that looked a little odd at the time of being seen.

It doesn't make any difference, is my point. Most of these reports aren't anything, all this means - at worst - more otherwise explainable cases got bundled up and buried for decades out of policy rather than any genuine intent to maliciously deceive.

The UFO Community is not some challenging adversary those in power have to endlessly thwart with complicated schemes - like I say, just go back to last weeks balloon.

This Community shoots itself in the foot for free all the time....

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9

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1 more reply

u/delucho avatar

delucho

•

2y ago

Dude this is trippy the channel parasyketv on YouTube did a FANTASTIC video on the mage UFO thing with all kinds of videos from locals. Now it's gone. Wtf

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1

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u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

2y ago

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Still works here if you give it a minute to load up, at least on desktop:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20230604185112/https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmBniAE4y8E>

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Upstairs-Storage4427

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4y ago

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Alright, let's cut the crap. Who here has actually seen an undeniable UF0?

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Alright, let's cut the crap. Who here has actually seen an undeniable UF0?

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Has anyone ever been embarrassed by their interest in UF0s and aliens?

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I analyzed 80,000 UF0 sightings. Here are some insights.

r/UF0s - I analyzed 80,000 UF0 sightings. Here are some insights.

9

865 upvotes · 127 comments

To all newcomers to this topic: UF0s and NHIs are real. Here is a list of the most credible cases - and a call to finally move past this part of the discussion. Please share your thoughts.

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To all newcomers to this topic: UF0s and NHIs are real. Here is a list of the most credible cases - and a call to finally move past this part of the discussion. Please share your thoughts.

914 upvotes · 408 comments

This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UF0s since the 50's

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5mo ago

This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UF0s since the 50's

r/UF0s - This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UF0s since the 50's

youtu

929 upvotes · 291 comments

Found this random UF0 picture, does it depict a real UF0 model?

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2mo ago

Found this random UF0 picture, does it depict a real UF0 model?

r/UF0s - Found this random UF0 picture, does it depict a real UF0 model?

549 upvotes · 172 comments

Why do UF0 "insiders" always stop short of spilling the beans?

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3mo ago

Why do UFO "insiders" always stop short of spilling the beans?

572 upvotes · 446 comments

Which type of UFO have you seen?

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4mo ago

Which type of UFO have you seen?

r/UFOs - Which type of UFO have you seen?

2.3K upvotes · 1.2K comments

Police Detective Testifies On UFO Events Witnessed By Police Officers. Cases of UFOs the size of football fields flying silently and dematerializing.

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Police Detective Testifies On UFO Events Witnessed By Police Officers. Cases of UFOs the size of football fields flying silently and dematerializing.

r/UFOs - Police Detective Testifies On UFO Events Witnessed By Police Officers.

Cases of UFOs the size of football fields flying silently and dematerializing.

482 upvotes · 48 comments

That's what I call a beautiful UFO sighting.

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That's what I call a beautiful UFO sighting.

r/UFOs - That's what I call a beautiful UFO sighting.

2.2K upvotes · 199 comments

My first UFO sighting

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8mo ago

My first UFO sighting

r/UFOs - My first UFO sighting

718 upvotes · 56 comments

This whole UFO disclosure is one giant psyop and everyone is falling for it.

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1mo ago

This whole UFO disclosure is one giant psyop and everyone is falling for it.

51 comments

UFO Researchers Accuse NASA of Hiding Evidence of Alien Life

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UFO Researchers Accuse NASA of Hiding Evidence of Alien Life

r/UFOs - UFO Researchers Accuse NASA of Hiding Evidence of Alien Life

co

619 upvotes · 49 comments

I don't want to be the UFO weirdo, but sometimes I just can't hold back.

r/UFOs icon

r/UFOs

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4mo ago

I don't want to be the UFO weirdo, but sometimes I just can't hold back.

112 upvotes · 290 comments

Some of the best UFO photos ever captured

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3mo ago

Some of the best UFO photos ever captured

315 upvotes · 63 comments

For generations, UFO enthusiasts have longed for claims of aliens visiting Earth to be seriously investigated by scientists. Now they are getting their wish

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For generations, UFO enthusiasts have longed for claims of aliens visiting Earth to be seriously investigated by scientists. Now they are getting their wish

r/UFOs - For generations, UFO enthusiasts have longed for claims of aliens

visiting Earth to be seriously investigated by scientists. Now they are getting their wish

scientificamerican

576 upvotes · 50 comments

One way how the UFO secret keeps itself

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6mo ago

One way how the UFO secret keeps itself

r/UFOs - One way how the UFO secret keeps itself

652 upvotes · 211 comments

UFO Sighting

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1mo ago

UFO Sighting

r/UFOs - UFO Sighting

5

206 upvotes · 49 comments

Internal Request Reveals the Air Force Tried to Unlock a Hidden CIA UFO Report

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Internal Request Reveals the Air Force Tried to Unlock a Hidden CIA UFO Report

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unredacted

506 upvotes · 31 comments

Is this a UFO or am I crazy?

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Is this a UFO or am I crazy?

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UFOs/UAP are a Global Phenomena.

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113 upvotes · 7 comments

Looking for a good Podcast/videos/channel to get more information about UFOs.

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9d ago

Looking for a good Podcast/videos/channel to get more information about UFOs.

14 upvotes · 47 comments

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For the record, that there has been a UFO coverup is already an established fact. : r/UFOs

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Go to UFOs

r/UFOs

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4y ago

MKULTRA_Escaper

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For the record, that there has been a UFO coverup is already an established fact.

There are two main, separate UFO phenomena that exist independently of one another. 1) Secret military aircraft, and 2) apparently highly technologically advanced aerial objects that outperform even our secret military aircraft.

In 1997, the CIA openly admitted that they lied about UFOs and spread propaganda to debunk UFO sightings, although they only admitted to covering up secret military aircraft. If the CIA admitted to covering up one of these, would a reasonable person believe that they wouldn't also cover up the other?

Pay close attention to the timeline here, the most important factor that reveals what was going on.

[Edit: I should have began with this:

According to Senator Barry Goldwater, UFO information (or at least some portion of it) is classified "Above Top Secret." According to a then Top Secret 1950 memo, the Canadian Project Magnet head (of a UFO program) Wilbert B. Smith was informed that "the matter is the most highly classified subject in the United States government, rating higher even than the H-bomb."

According to a January 31, 1949 FBI memorandum to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover from the FBI San Antonio field office:

"This matter is considered Top Secret by Intelligence Officers of both the Army and the Air Forces."]

The fact of the UFO coverup:

Rather than acknowledging the existence of the top-secret [U-2 and SR-71] flights or saying nothing about them publicly, the Air Force decided to put out false cover stories, the C.I.A. study says. For instance, unusual observations that were actually spy flights were attributed to atmospheric phenomena like ice crystals and temperature inversions.

'Over half of all U.F.O. reports from the late 1950's through the 1960's were accounted for by manned reconnaissance flights' over the United States, the C.I.A. study says. 'This led the Air Force to make misleading and deceptive statements to the public in order to allay public fears and to protect an extraordinarily sensitive national security project.'

<https://www.nytimes.com/1997/08/03/us/cia-admits-government-lied-about-ufo-sightings.html> (archive of article here)

They reiterated this again in a misleading 2014 tweet on the CIA twitter account. "Remember reports of unusual activity in the skies in the '50s? That was us." <https://twitter.com/CIA/status/484429844777037824>

NOTE: The claim that "half of UFOs were spy flights" is clearly not true. Not only is that claim preposterous, it has also been debunked: https://np.reddit.com/user/MKULTRA_Escapee/comments/1bqayw0/metabunk_looks_at_the_claim_half_of_ufos_in_the/ This means that the Air Force's deliberately false explanations for UFOs were not plausibly justified in order to cover up U-2 flights. Therefore, they were just covering up UFOs.

The Robertson Panel Report lays out a very well-thought out coverup plan of UFOs in 1953, several years before the first flight of the U-2 anyway:

After a closed-door session with a scientific advisory panel chaired by H.P. Robertson from the California Institute of Technology, the C.I.A. issued a secret report recommending a broad educational program for all intelligence agencies, with the aim of "training and debunking."

Training meant more public education on how to identify known objects in the sky. "The use of true cases showing first the 'mystery' and then the 'explanation' would be forceful," the report said. Debunking "would be accomplished by mass media such as television, motion pictures, and popular articles."

That plan involved using psychologists, advertising experts, amateur astronomers

and even Disney cartoons to create propaganda to reduce public interest. And civilian U.F.O. groups should be "watched," the report stated, because of their "great influence on mass thinking if widespread sightings should occur."

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/15/arts/television/project-blue-book-history-true-story.html> (archive of article here)

One criticism of this document is that it was merely a plan, not an admission of that plan in practice, but as you can see from the 1997 "CIA Study," it clearly was put into practice, but there is other supporting evidence of that. For example, I would highly recommend reviewing this 1979 New York Times article, which was based on then recently released documents through FOIA back when the act had teeth. Some excerpts:

Despite official pronouncements for decades that U.F.O.'s were nothing more than misidentified aerial objects and as such were no cause for alarm, recently declassified U.F.O. records from the C.I.A., the F.B.I. and other Federal agencies indicate that, ever since U.F.O.'s made their appearance in our skies in the 1940's, the phenomenon has aroused much serious behind-the-scenes concern in official circles.

Even the possibility that these unknowns could be evidence of extraterrestrial visitations has been given serious attention in Government circles.

But it is the C.I.A. that appears to have played the key role in the controversy, and may even be responsible for the Government's conduct in U.F.O. investigations throughout the years.

As the cold war gave rise to the fears of the McCarthy era, official concern over U.F.O.'s even led to the surveillance of several private U.F.O. organizations (as many of their members have long insisted) and to the scrutiny of dozens of individuals suspected of subversive U.F.O. activities.
<https://www.nytimes.com/1979/10/14/archives/ufo-files-the-untold-story.html> (archive of article here)

If you're familiar with UFO history, you'd see how absurd it is to take the CIA's "it was just our aircraft" narrative seriously. The U-2 was flying from 1955 onward, and the SR-71 in the 60s. What about the first half of the 50s, almost the entire decade of the 1940s (foo fighters, etc), and all of the sightings going back millennia? Some choice examples of historical UFO sightings here:

https://np.reddit.com/r/HighStrangeness/comments/14i2ztm/ufo_shapes_changed_over_time_seems_to_be_a_myth/ In one example, we now know that a mass sighting of a "dull, silvery disk" was witnessed in 1917, way before the modern flying saucer/UFO era, which began 30 years later, but many such sightings have occurred throughout history.

It should be noted that in a memo in 1947, General Nathan Twining wrote to Brig. General George Schulgen:

It is the opinion that:

"The phenomenon is something real and not visionary or fictitious."

"The reported operating characteristics such as extreme rates of climb, maneuverability (particularly in roll), and action which must be considered evasive when sighted ... lend belief to the possibility that some of the objects are controlled either manually, automatically, or remotely."

e. The apparent common description is as follows: (1) Metallic or light reflecting surface. (2) Absence of trail, except in a few instances where the object apparently was operating under high performance conditions. (3) Circular or elliptical in shape, flat on bottom and domed on top.

<https://archive.org/details/twinning-memo/mode/2up>

Note: Detractors will claim that Kenneth Arnold didn't actually see discs, suggesting that the entire flying saucer phenomenon was caused by "media hysteria," therefore the above document drew incorrect conclusions. However, Kenneth Arnold did appear to see flying discs (or 95 percent discs) going by his original statements, audio interview, and his original drawing he made for the Army. But since his story changed over time, people select the claims he made years later as being more accurate, even though memory fades over time, not the opposite.

Supplementary material further establishing the UFO coverup:

In a 1960 letter to Congress, Vice Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter, who was first Director of the CIA (1947-1950), stated:

"Behind the scenes, high-ranking Air Force officers are soberly concerned about UFOs. But through official secrecy and ridicule, many citizens are led to believe the unknown flying objects are nonsense. To hide the facts, the Air Force has silenced its personnel." Full New York Times article:
<https://imgur.com/a/ljgfJyx> (Paywalled link:
<https://www.nytimes.com/1960/02/28/archives/air-forge-order-on-saucers-cited-pamphlet-by-the-inspector-general.html>)

If anyone was in a position to know what was really going on in the late 1940s, it was him.

Former Bluebook chief Edward Ruppelt was the first to reveal the existence and a summary of the proceedings and conclusions of the Robertson Panel Report in his 1956 book. The report was released years later. He also revealed several other then secret documents, including the 1948 Estimate of the Situation, which stated that the extraterrestrial hypothesis was the best explanation for flying saucers. This estimate was sent up the chain of command and subsequently destroyed, never to see the light of day.

Ruppelt also stated:

...It was the typical negative approach. I know that the negative approach is typical of the way that material is handed out by the Air Force because I was continually being told to "tell them about the sighting reports we've solved—don't mention the unknowns." I was never ordered to tell this, but it was a strong suggestion and in the military when higher headquarters suggests, you do. -The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects, by Edward J. Ruppelt, Air Force Director of Project Grudge and Blue Book [1956] - Chapter 5, page 62.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek (who later believed UFOs were non-human technology) was a government UFO debunker and scientific advisor to UFO studies from 1947-1969 (Sign, Grudge, and Bluebook). He later came clean about his involvement in the UFO coverup, stating Bluebook was told not to get the public excited, "don't rock the boat." Whenever a case came up that they could explain, let that out to the media/public. But for cases that were very difficult to explain, do everything you can to keep the media away from it. Bluebook had a job to do, rightly or wrongly, to keep the public from getting excited:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pyDVR2B14dw> After learning of the Bolender memo, Hynek remarked that "he felt very used."

According to the Bolender memo, any UFO reports which could affect national security went into a separate system from the public "Project Blue Book." There was a coverup within the coverup. Even those people responsible for studying UFOs and covering them up were themselves victims to yet another coverup.
https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/urxzi5/stanton_friedman_on_usaf_brigadier_general/

Similar statements about UFO reports bypassing the BB system were made in AF documents going back to 1958-61, when similar efforts to justify closure of BB

were made then. In an interview on March 16, 2000, retired BB chief Col. Robert J. Friend told me that he knew there were classified intelligence channels for reporting UFO's that completely bypassed BB and he knew of specific UFO cases involving classified sensor systems that were reported that way and never went to him at BB. UFO's were reported to the AF operational commands in accordance the AF's Operational Reporting system, AFOREP, under AF Manual 55-11 of 1965 and predecessors, and this supplanted the UFO reporting directives that had sent UFO reports to BB. http://www.nicap.org/waves/bolender_memo3.htm

Here is Colonel William T. Coleman and Colonel Friend on the history of Blue Book and the mysterious disappearance from Bluebook of good UFO reports. Colonel Coleman states that while flying, he himself was basically "right on top" of a UFO, a "run of the mill flying saucer," but when he went looking for his report in the Bluebook files, it was nowhere to be found:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6kjhZKNt8w>

Note that the government claimed in 1969 they were no longer interested in studying and collecting information on UFOs. The above declassified Bolender memo proves that false.

From 1952 to 1954 (press release available one year later), Bluebook commissioned the Battelle Memorial Institute to analyze 3,200 UFO reports. This was known as Project Bluebook Special Report 14. They concluded that over 20 percent of the thousands of cases they looked at could not be identified after attempts to debunk them. The higher the quality of case, the more likely it could not be explained. A full third of the cases in the "excellent" category could not be identified. However, a fact such as this was detrimental to what they were trying to accomplish, so in 1955, the government put out a misleading press release on the study that only 3 percent of reports were unknowns, and the report itself wasn't available for many years. In the press release, they further claimed that if they had more information, that 3 percent would probably disappear, but this is directly contradicted by the findings of the report itself. The better the information and witnesses, the less likely they could explain the case. Why lie about it?

Actual conclusions of the report: of all cases, 22 percent were unknowns. 42 percent explained with certainty. 27 percent doubtfully explained. 9 percent insufficient information to make a determination.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Blue_Book#Project_Blue_Book_Special_Report_No._14

The original press release can be seen here, Oct 25, 1955:
<https://imgur.com/a/82GLY6r> Source here, page 43:
http://www.cufos.org/books/Air_Force_Project_Blue_Book_Special_Report_14R.pdf

Remember that the U-2 didn't even fly until after Bluebook 14 was completed. So what was flying around up there?

Edit: accuracy.

Edit 2: added information on Goldwater, Smith, and an FBI memo. Fixed links.

Edit 3: Updated several links, and a couple other edits to wording.

Upvote
440

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40
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Comments Section
u/Adventurous-Ear9433 avatar
Adventurous-Ear9433

•

4y ago

The way they try claiming the U2 & SR 71 explains away most sightings is bs. I think it's a possibility that Kelly Johnson, & Lockheed development of those specific aircraft was a result of studying UFOs. Here Kelly Johnson himself talking about a UFO sighting & bringing in the USAF to study this. I think alot of these guys got very wealthy from reverse engineering tech from these craft is partly responsible for all the secrecy. Not public outrage, national security, greed. Pretty much EVERY Aerospace company was secretly involved in this research, especially Lockheed. Also hilarious that the CIA contracted McDonnell Douglas in '70, to mimic UFOs. Project Skylite it was called

Upvote
36

Downvote

Reply

u/Scatteredbrain avatar
Scatteredbrain

•

4y ago

•

Edited 4y ago

Profile Badge for the Achievement Top 1% Commenter Top 1% Commenter
according to the wilson memo they have had little to no progress at all reverse engineering alien technology

Upvote
11

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Reply

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar
MKULTRA_Escapee
OP

•

4y ago

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I tend to agree with that assessment for the simple fact that another civilization would likely be millions, perhaps billions of years more advanced. Reverse engineering that would be akin to a caveman trying to reverse engineer an iPhone. It's going to take hundreds or thousands of years at the very least, if not longer, before we have real success overall, but there probably has been a small amount of progress in certain areas, maybe like with metamaterials.

Eric Davis is also on audio talking about this here: <https://youtu.be/x4-JfM4rkRY>

Ross Coulthart, formerly of 60 Minutes Australia, has his own sources, including Nat Kobitz, the "chief geek for the US Navy" who admitted he was read into a UFO crash retrieval program, personally studied such highly technologically advanced debris, and was briefed that there were bodies. Kobitz stated "I could not explain what it was. Those metals were bonded at the atomic level."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sBE2pfPdlo> Coulthart also says he has spoken to over 20 sources who are aware of an attempt by the US to back-engineer such technology, and all of those people claim there was no real success. Because of this, Coulthart says he is "absolutely certain that the United States has recovered non-human technology."

And of course Leonard Stringfield, who had like 50 sources, which he covered in his books.

Upvote
28

Downvote

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3 more replies

u/Adventurous-Ear9433 avatar
Adventurous-Ear9433

•

4y ago

Oh yea, I believe that for the most part they haven't quite cracked the code, but it's pretty obvious they know how things work at the very least. Ben Rich has alluded to this, Dr Robert Woods, Dir of McDonnell Douglas has as well. I think some physical material, such as nitinol was one of the few successes. The program, led to ARPANET, as well as getting the laser past just the theoretical phase as far as telecommunications go. (Dr CharlesKao/ITT)

IMHO, The lack of progress is partly the level of advancement of whomever created said exotic materials that these programs recovered being at least a few hundred thousand years ahead of our current knowledge. But alot of it is the result of the ultra-secrecy surrounding the phenomenon in general. The cover-up whether one argues it was for the good of the people, which I doubt, or just because the powers that be saw the potential for profit, influence, (RAND Corp is of the most influential organizations in the world) or superiority over other countries, it's come back to bite them in their ass for sure.

The scientific community claims there's no hard evidence of a topic they're scared to study, or even acknowledge publicly. Fear of ridicule from mainstream sciencd/academia as a result of purposely stigmatizing this subject + compartmentalization & lack of cooperation from competing Aerospace companies = running into a brick wall.

Upvote
4

Downvote

Reply

im_da_nice_guy

•

4y ago

Wilson only found one program. There could be many programs, all analyzing different pieces or different craft or whatever. If they work as described they probably wouldn't even tell the programs about each other.

Upvote

3

Downvote

Reply

2 more replies

zauraz

•

4y ago

Great work like always MK! You are a great asset to the community!!

Upvote

17

Downvote

Reply

u/braveoldfart777 avatar

braveoldfart777

•

4y ago

Great research here MK, thanks for the refresher course!!

Don't forget the 69 Condon Report "Trick" memo that Edward Condon wrote that turns up & was supposed to provide an unbiased report on what threat UAP were, & their conclusion stating exactly what the Air Force/government wanted it to say. Nothing to see here, move along.

Too many coincidentally slanted arguments for blatant ignoring of valid evidence not to look at a government coverup.

Upvote

23

Downvote

Reply

u/Adventurous-Ear9433 avatar

Adventurous-Ear9433

•

4y ago

100% in agreement here. Condon Report such bs, it was 1969 when they claimed there was nothing to the phenomenon, & that all scientific work on the UFO problem, henceforth should make reference to the Condon Report. Meanwhile, in Dep Director of McDonnell Douglas documents there's a section called Competitors Efforts explaining the other major Aerospace companies involved in UFO programs, and Dr Woods states

"Hughes (10 men at Fullerton under Meiers);

-Lockheed Sunnyvale;

-Rand has proposed project (as have several other companies); Several companies have UFO related efforts.

-Raytheon has had computer project from Condon (U. of Colo)"

So Raytheon was literally at the headquarters of the Condon Report, engaged in scientific research of UFOs. In direct contradiction to the report released a YEAR before.

Upvote
17

Downvote

Reply

u/braveoldfart777 avatar
braveoldfart777

•

4y ago

This is good information here. Didn't realize all that was happening during this period. Thanks for the additional research!👍

Upvote
2

Downvote

Reply

1 more reply

1 more reply
u/Astrocreep_1 avatar
Astrocreep_1

•

3y ago

After seeing this, I didn't realize how bad the numbers really were. In reality, approximately 54% of all cases fall into unexplained or poorly explained areas. If Swamp Gas is considered a "solved" or "known cause" case, I'd strongly dislike to see what "doubtfully explained" looks like.

The reality is that this study was funded, a fall guy provided with the name Hyneck, and they solved very few sightings. I'm sure if they had any kind of aircraft in the remote area at the time of the sighting, it was marked "explained with certainty".

Example: Case number BS-69 New Orleans, La.

Witness: "At about 7:00 PM(1900 hrs military)I saw a UFO hover over Lake Ponchatrain, only 50 feet above it. A light came out the bottom and it almost looked like it was vacuuming water."

BlueBook explanation: Witness saw a test run of the U-2 Spy Plane, flying at 50,000 feet over Biloxi, which is only about 90 miles east, at 1800 hrs. Case closed with certainty.

Upvote

7

Downvote

Reply

u/MKULTRA_Escaper avatar

MKULTRA_Escaper

OP

•

3y ago

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Yea, pretty much. I hinted at that a little bit here regarding AARO:

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/10avrn3/mick_west_is_making_the_rounds_this_morning_about/j46luwr/

They admit in the report they released that if they characterize a UFO as balloon-like or drone-like, that doesn't mean it was actually a balloon or a drone. UFOs are often debunked by simply picking the closest thing they can think of that is similar to it just like meteorites were explained as thunderstones and rocks thrown from volcanoes.

And this: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Blue_Book#Hynek's_criticism

And that is on top of the fact that a UFO sighting that affects national security was handled in an entirely separate channel, bypassing bluebook. The real percentage of "actual UFOs" could be as high as 30 percent or more, at least after subtracting low quality garbage that isn't worth paying attention to, which should be part of everyone's analysis of UFOs.

Upvote

5

Downvote

Reply

bevilthompson

•

4y ago

Great read! Very comprehensive and informative. The same powers that be who lied and covered this up for decades are now giving us "disclosure", I say we should be just as skeptical as to the veracity and motives for said disclosure knowing their track record.

Upvote

10

Downvote

Reply

u/MKULTRA_Escaper avatar

MKULTRA_Escaper

OP

•

4y ago

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Edited 4y ago

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Absolutely agreed, but I would be careful to separate what is coming officially from the government versus what has been leaked.

For example, the narrative that the DoD authorized the release of those original three Navy videos is extremely misleading. Not only was the Flir1 video already leaked in 2007, then incorrectly "debunked" as CGI, the other two videos were also leaked. In fact, the majority of the other officially recorded videos we have, such as Aguadilla, Nellis, and others, were also leaked. See these citations:

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/qx0oz8/why_so_fewno_credible_leaks_of_hard_evidence/hl6jff05/

Some have said that they probably only gave us crappy videos on purpose, but it also appears that the "rotating glare" theory for the Gimbal video is incorrect: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9lOQkxMkW8>

Some examples of shady tactics used to discredit Elizondo, such as by deleting his emails that could have proven or disproven some of his claims:

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/ul9x4n/why_i_think_lue_knows_some_of_the_innermost/i7ugddy/

I sympathize with people who think government personnel apparently coming out on their own could be disinformation agents. How could I know either way? But so many of them have come out, the idea that most of them are disinformation agents is a much bigger conspiracy theory with apparently zero leaks, and therefore less likely than the incompetent coverup theory, which has many hundreds of leaks, something expected from large conspiracies. See here:

https://np.reddit.com/r/UFOs/comments/u9v40f/abc_news_the_us_government_is_completely/ (edit: unless you count Doty, an alleged smaller operation, and allegedly Von Braun, who both still claimed that some UFOs are extraterrestrial. I don't know the legitimacy of the Von Braun situation. I'm not aware of anybody who allegedly blew the whistle that any substantial portion of the whistleblowing is disinformation, but even if there were one or two, it would still be far simpler to argue that those people are themselves disinformation agents muddying the waters)

In my opinion, a lot of people in government, since many of them are probably themselves just recently learning about all of this as well, have their own unofficial "disclosure" going on, and the coverup group is just trying to hold back as best as they can. They seem to make concessions when you push them into a corner. Those navy videos were officially released after they were already public. For another example, the Robertson Panel Report was released after Ruppelt revealed it in his book.

Upvote

26

Downvote

Reply

u/Chuny_OK avatar

Chuny_OK

•

3y ago

This must be one of the best posts I've seen around here.

Upvote

3

Downvote

Reply

[deleted]

•

2y ago

they only admitted to covering up secret military aircraft

reasonable person believe

Misleading title. "They lied about x so they are lying about y" isn't fact it's logic fallacy.

Stay in school kids.

Upvote

3

Downvote

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u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

2y ago

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That was just to further bolster my argument. I was primarily interested in letting people know that the us government admits to giving deliberately false explanations for UFO sightings, something that UFO buffs know very well, but is probably contested by noobies. If you would have read further down the post instead of stopping after a couple of sentences, you'd see that this actually is a historical fact. The US government itself declassified the proof of both the UFO coverup and the blatant lie they told the public in 1969. Not to mention all of the peripheral information that lines right up with that.

Upvote

3

Downvote

Reply

1 more reply

[deleted]

•

4y ago

If you're familiar with UFO history, you'd see how absurd it is to take the CIA's "it was just our aircraft" narrative seriously.

Forgive me - I'm a first hand UFO witness, not a Believer so a lot of these conventions strike me as somewhat quaint, but - why is this in any way more absurd than accepting the basis for your hypothesis is telling the truth - only to a point - and then completely theorizing about the perceived missing "other side" to the story about UFO's?

Not to put too fine a point on this - as individuals were all lovely people, witty, intelligent - fun, even - but as group the UFO Community is a joke - no threat to anyone, certainly not the DoD, the Government and certainly not the CIA.

This community thinks its tenable , whatever faction, deems us such a threat to nations darkest secrets its sensible to go to any lengths to keep them covered up....

But yet, here we all are. Knowing all about them. Talking about them.

Can you understand the inherent problem I have here? I don't think UFO's exist - I bladdy know they do, I once stood not terribly far away from one and even underwent the head ache to prove it and not for a short time either.

I have actually no problem with the idea the CIA would use Flying Saucers as a way of passing off sightings of actually classified aircraft - most especially during the Cold War. I lived through that, I have a pristine memory of how actually scary the 50's-80's were.

Could these same people actually have covered up genuine UFO sightings by passing them off as classified projects?

Of course they could - there's no way to prove that they didn't but - even if they did, it's not necessarily to say these incidents were actually realised to be genuine UFO sightings simply presumed to be miss-identifications of classified projects and so passed off as such without actually realising they may actually have been UFO's to begin with.

It doesn't necessarily follow there's a sinister motive here - you administer a sub testament to the fact people misidentify perfectly ordinary, prosaic things all the time - convinced that what they saw and filmed was extraordinary and remarkable.

They're not.

A lot of these exact kinds of reports probably would have got swept up under the category of MFO and presumed miss-identification of classified inventory - look at the number of people convinced that stray balloon over London last weekend behaved strangely and couldn't be accounted for as anything other than a UAP.

I'd even include military and air-force reports in this because I've interviewed pilots and though - sure, they can be trusted with a good deal of accurate observation - they're not infallible, they do make mistakes and they're people, just like everyone else.

Their aren't unlimited resources available in any project - nobody in the CIA is going to have the time and resources to patiently sift through every last individual file that crosses a desk - if you're stated objective is to disguise genuine inventory sightings as UFO reports - anything remotely anomalous is just going to be filed under that heading and then - years later - you're probably going to find a lot of those reports actually weren't of classified inventory at all but UFO's.

But, that being said - you're own sub lies testament to the fact - most of those sightings equally won't of actually have been of actual UFO's either, just perfectly prosaic things that looked a little odd at the time of being seen.

It doesn't make any difference, is my point. Most of these reports aren't anything, all this means - at worst - more otherwise explainable cases got bundled up and buried for decades out of policy rather than any genuine intent to maliciously deceive.

The UFO Community is not some challenging adversary those in power have to endlessly thwart with complicated schemes - like I say, just go back to last weeks balloon.

This Community shoots itself in the foot for free all the time....

Upvote

9

Downvote

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1 more reply

u/delucho avatar

delucho

•

2y ago

Dude this is trippy the channel parasyketv on YouTube did a FANTASTIC video on the mage UFO thing with all kinds of videos from locals. Now it's gone. Wtf

Upvote

1

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Reply

u/MKULTRA_Escapee avatar

MKULTRA_Escapee

OP

•

2y ago

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Still works here if you give it a minute to load up, at least on desktop:

[https://web.archive.org/web/20230604185112/https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://web.archive.org/web/20230604185112/https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmBniAE4y8E)

[v=MmBniAE4y8E](https://web.archive.org/web/20230604185112/https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmBniAE4y8E)

Upvote

1

Downvote

Reply

Upstairs-Storage4427

•

4y ago

Bru does op just take meth and research ufo what a nice writeup poggers

Upvote

1

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Reply

[deleted]

•

4y ago

[deleted]

•
4y ago
u/thedeadlyrhythm avatar
thedeadlyrhythm

•
4y ago
There are Aussie RAF intelligence docs that also back this up:

The early analyses of UFO reports by USAF intelligence indicated that real phenomena were being reported which had flight characteristics so far in advance of U.S. aircraft that only an extra-terrestrial origin could be envisaged. A government agency, which later events indicated to be the CIA Office of Scientific Intelligence (OSI), studied the UFO reports with the intention of determining the UFO propulsion methods. At that time, OSI was responsible for intelligence on foreign research and development in nuclear and missile matters.

The CIA became alarmed at the overloading of military communications during the mass sightings of 1952 and considered the possibility that the USSR may take advantage of such a situation. As a result, OSI acting through the Robertson-panel meeting of mid-January 1953, persuaded the USAF to use Project BLUE BOOK as a means of publicly "debunking" UFO's, and at a later stage to allocate funds for the Avro advanced "saucer" aircraft and the launching of a crash programme into anti-gravity power. To initiate such programs decades ahead of normal scientific development would indicate that the U.S. Government acknowledged the existence of advanced "aircraft" which presumably used a gravity-control method of propulsion. An additional motivation could have been the fear that the USSR would achieve this goal before the U.S.

By erecting a facade of ridicule, the U.S. hoped to allay public alarm, reduce the possibility of the Soviets taking advantage of UFO mass sightings for either psychological or actual warfare purposes, and act as a cover for the real U.S. programme of developing vehicles that emulate UFO performances.

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=30030606&S=7>

I think these docs are explosive in that they explicitly state USAF opinion was that the only possibility was nonhuman tech.

Also J Allen Hynek: J. Allen Hynek, head of project Blue Book, on intentional debunking and most truly unexplainable cases being hidden from the public and from bluebook itself. also talks about performance characteristics making it impossible for the origin to be from us or peers:

<https://youtu.be/6YYkjYAxT44>

Upvote
100

Downvote

Reply

Leavingtheecstasy

•

4y ago
You guys are good

Upvote
22

Downvote

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u/daynomate avatar
daynomate

•

3y ago

Ross Coulthart spoke extensively about his RAAF research on the topic, and the frank admissions he got.

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Jet_Threat_

•

4mo ago

Is there any possibility thr CIA lied about not knowing?

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9

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To all newcomers to this topic: UFOs and NHIs are real. Here is a list of the most credible cases - and a call to finally move past this part of the discussion. Please share your thoughts.

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6mo ago

To all newcomers to this topic: UFOs and NHIs are real. Here is a list of the most credible cases - and a call to finally move past this part of the discussion. Please share your thoughts.

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This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UFOs since the 50's

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5mo ago

This is, in my opinion, the most solid evidence for the existence of UFOs since the 50's

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Why do UFO "insiders" always stop short of spilling the beans?

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2.3K upvotes · 1.2K comments

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482 upvotes · 48 comments

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This whole UFO disclosure is one giant psyop and everyone is falling for it.
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619 upvotes · 49 comments
I don't want to be the UFO weirdo, but sometimes I just can't hold back.
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•

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112 upvotes · 290 comments
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scientificamerican
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1mo ago

UFO Sighting

r/UFOs - UFO Sighting

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Internal Request Reveals the Air Force Tried to Unlock a Hidden CIA UFO Report

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unredacted

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Is this a UFO or am I crazy?

r/UFOs - Is this a UFO or am I crazy?

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7d ago

For Skeptics: You Don't Have to Believe in UFOs to Prepare for Ontological Disruption

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UFOs/UAP are a Global Phenomena.

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14 upvotes · 47 comments

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Barry Goldwater

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This article is about the U.S. senator and presidential nominee. For his son, see Barry Goldwater Jr.
Barry Goldwater

Goldwater in 1960
United States Senator
from Arizona
In office
January 3, 1969 – January 3, 1987
Preceded by Carl Hayden
Succeeded by John McCain
In office
January 3, 1953 – January 3, 1965
Preceded by Ernest McFarland
Succeeded by Paul Fannin
Committee positions
Member of the Phoenix City Council
from the at-large district
In office
1950–1952
Personal details
Born Barry Morris Goldwater
January 2, 1909
Phoenix, Arizona Territory
Died May 29, 1998 (aged 89)
Paradise Valley, Arizona, U.S.
Resting place Christ Church of the Ascension
Paradise Valley, Arizona, U.S.
Party Republican
Spouses
Margaret Johnson

(m. 1934; died 1985)
Susan Wechsler (m. 1992)
Children 4, including Barry Jr.
Education University of Arizona (did not graduate)

Signature
Military service
Branch/service
United States Army
Army Air Forces
Arizona Air National Guard
United States Air Force
Air Force Reserve
Years of service 1941–1946 (active)
1946–1967 (reserves)
Rank Major General
Battles/wars
World War II
Second Sino-Japanese War
Korean War

This article is part of
a series about
Barry Goldwater
Personal
U.S. Senator from Arizona
Presidential campaigns
Legacy
vte

Barry Morris Goldwater (January 2, 1909 – May 29, 1998) was an American politician and major general in the Air Force Reserve who served as a United States senator from 1953 to 1965 and 1969 to 1987, and was the Republican Party's nominee for president in 1964.

Goldwater was born in Phoenix, Arizona, where he helped manage his family's department store. During World War II, he flew aircraft between the U.S. and India. After the war, Goldwater served in the Phoenix City Council. In 1952, he was elected to the U.S. Senate, where he rejected the legacy of the New Deal and, along with the conservative coalition, fought against the New Deal coalition. Goldwater also challenged his party's moderate to liberal wing on policy issues. He supported the Civil Rights Acts of 1957 and 1960 and the 24th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution but opposed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, disagreeing with Title II and Title VII. In the 1964 U.S. presidential election, Goldwater mobilized a large conservative constituency to win the Republican nomination, but then lost the general election to incumbent Democratic president Lyndon B. Johnson in a landslide.[1]

Goldwater returned to the Senate in 1969 and specialized in defense and foreign policy. He successfully urged president Richard Nixon to resign in 1974 when evidence of a cover-up in the Watergate scandal became overwhelming and impeachment was imminent. In 1986, he oversaw passage of the Goldwater–Nichols Act, which strengthened civilian authority in the U.S. Department of Defense. Near the end of his career, Goldwater's views on social and cultural issues grew increasingly libertarian.

Many political pundits and historians believe he laid the foundation for the conservative revolution to follow as the grassroots organization and conservative takeover of the Republican Party began a long-term realignment in American politics, which helped to bring about the presidency of Ronald Reagan in the 1980s. He also had a substantial impact on the American libertarian movement.[2] After leaving the Senate, Goldwater became supportive of environmental protection,[3] gay rights, including military service and adoption rights for same-sex couples,[4][5] abortion rights,[6] and the legalization of marijuana.[7]

Early life and education

Goldwater was born on January 2, 1909, in Phoenix, Arizona, in what was then the Arizona Territory, the son of Baron M. Goldwater and his wife, Hattie Josephine "JoJo" Williams. Goldwater long believed that he was born on January 1, 1909,

and thus works published during his career list this as his date of birth; however, in his later years, he discovered documentation revealing that he was actually born at 3 a.m. on January 2.[8] His father's family founded Goldwater's Department Store, a leading upscale department store in Phoenix.[9] Goldwater's paternal grandfather, Michel Goldwasser, a Polish Jew, was born in 1821 in Konin, then part of Congress Poland. He emigrated to London following the Revolutions of 1848. Soon after arriving in London, Michel anglicized his name to Michael Goldwater. Michel married Sarah Nathan, a member of an English-Jewish family, in the Great Synagogue of London.[10][11]

The Goldwaters later emigrated to the United States, first arriving in San Francisco, California, before finally settling in the Arizona Territory, where Michael Goldwater opened a small department store that was later taken over and expanded by his three sons, Henry, Baron, and Morris.[12] Morris Goldwater (1852-1939) was an Arizona territorial and state legislator, mayor of Prescott, Arizona, delegate to the Arizona Constitutional Convention, and later President of the Arizona State Senate.[13]

Goldwater's father was Jewish, but Goldwater was raised in his mother's Episcopal faith. Hattie Williams came from an established New England family that included the theologian Roger Williams, of Rhode Island.[14] Goldwater's parents were married in an Episcopal church in Phoenix; for his entire life, Goldwater was an Episcopalian, though on rare occasions he referred to himself as Jewish.[15] While he did not often attend church, he stated that "If a man acts in a religious way, an ethical way, then he's really a religious man—and it doesn't have a lot to do with how often he gets inside a church." [16][17][18] His first cousin was Julius Goldwater, a convert to Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu priest who assisted interned Japanese Americans during World War II.[19]

After performing poorly academically as a high school freshman, Goldwater's parents sent him to Staunton Military Academy in Staunton, Virginia, where he played varsity football, basketball, track, and swimming; was senior class treasurer; and attained the rank of captain.[15][20] He graduated from the academy in 1928 and enrolled at the University of Arizona,[20][21] but dropped out after one year. Barry Goldwater is the most recent non-college graduate to be the nominee of a major political party in a presidential election. Goldwater entered the family's business around the time of his father's death, in 1930. Six years later, he took over the department store, though he was not particularly enthusiastic about running the business.[15]

Career

U.S. Air Force

Goldwater as a major general in the United States Air Force, c.1967

After the United States entered World War II, Goldwater received a reserve commission in the United States Army Air Force. Goldwater trained as a pilot and was assigned to the Ferry Command, a newly formed unit that flew aircraft and supplies to war zones worldwide. He spent most of the war flying between the U.S. and India, via the Azores and North Africa or South America, Nigeria, and Central Africa. Goldwater also flew "The Hump", one of the most dangerous routes for supply planes during WWII. The route required aircraft to fly directly over the Himalayas in order to deliver desperately needed supplies to the Republic of China.[22]

Following the end of World War II in 1945, Goldwater was a leading proponent of creating the United States Air Force Academy and later served on the academy's Board of Visitors. The visitor center at the academy is now named in his honor. Goldwater remained in the Army Air Reserve after the war, and in 1946, at the rank of Colonel, Goldwater founded the Arizona Air National Guard. Goldwater ordered the Arizona Air National Guard desegregated, two years before the rest of the U.S. military. In the early 1960s, while a senator, he commanded the 9999th Air Reserve Squadron as a major general. Goldwater was instrumental in pushing the Pentagon to support the desegregation of the armed services.[23]

Goldwater remained in the Arizona Air National Guard until 1967, retiring as a Command Pilot with the rank of major general.[24]

As a U.S. Senator, Goldwater had a sign in his office that referenced his military career and mindset: "There are old pilots and there are bold pilots, but there are no old, bold pilots." [25]

Early political involvement

In a heavily Democratic state, Goldwater became a conservative Republican and a friend of Herbert Hoover. He was outspoken against New Deal liberalism, especially its close ties to labor unions. A pilot, amateur radio operator, outdoorsman, and photographer, he criss-crossed Arizona and developed a deep interest in both the natural and the human history of the state. He entered Phoenix politics in 1949, when he was elected to the City Council as part of a nonpartisan team of candidates pledged to clean up widespread prostitution and gambling. The team won every mayoral and council election for the next two decades. Goldwater rebuilt the weak Republican Party, and was instrumental in electing Howard Pyle as Governor in 1950.[26][27]

Support for civil rights

Goldwater was a supporter of racial equality. He integrated his family's business upon taking over control in the 1930s. A lifetime member of the NAACP, Goldwater helped found the group's Arizona chapter. He saw to it that the Arizona Air National Guard was racially integrated from its inception in 1946, two years before President Truman ordered the military as a whole be integrated (a process that was not completed until 1954). Goldwater worked with Phoenix civil rights leaders to successfully integrate public schools a year prior to *Brown v. Board of Education*. Despite this support of civil rights, he remained in objection to some major federal civil rights legislation. Civil rights leaders like Martin Luther King Jr. remarked of him, "while not himself a racist, Mr. Goldwater articulates a philosophy which gives aid and comfort to the racists." [28][29]

Goldwater was an early member and largely unrecognized supporter of the National Urban League's Phoenix chapter, going so far as to cover the group's early operating deficits with his personal funds.[30][31] Though the NAACP denounced Goldwater in the harshest of terms when he ran for president, the Urban League conferred on him the 1991 Humanitarian Award "for 50 years of loyal service to the Phoenix Urban League". In response to League members who objected, citing Goldwater's vote on the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the League president pointed out that he had saved the League more than once, saying he preferred to judge a person "on the basis of his daily actions rather than on his voting record".[31]

U.S. Senator

Goldwater's campaign portrait in the 1952 U.S. Senate campaign

Goldwater's informal press conference on August 7, 1974, following a meeting between Goldwater, U.S. Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott, U.S. House Minority Leader John Jacob Rhodes, and President Richard Nixon to discuss the Watergate scandal and impeachment process. The following evening, on August 8, 1974, President Nixon announced his resignation in a nationally televised address. Running as a Republican, Goldwater won a narrow upset victory seat in the 1952 Arizona Senate election against veteran Democrat and Senate Majority Leader Ernest McFarland. He won largely by defeating McFarland in his native Maricopa County by 12,600 votes, almost double the overall margin of 6,725 votes.

Goldwater defeated McFarland by a larger margin when he ran again in 1958. Following his strong re-election showing, he became the first Arizona Republican to win a second term in the U.S. Senate. Goldwater's victory was all the more remarkable since it came in a year Democrats gained 13 seats in the Senate.

During his Senate career, Goldwater was regarded as the "Grand Old Man of the Republican Party and one of the nation's most respected exponents of

conservatism".[32]

Criticism of Eisenhower administration

Goldwater was outspoken about the Eisenhower administration, calling some of the policies of the administration too liberal for a Republican president.

"Democrats delighted in pointing out that the junior senator was so headstrong that he had gone out his way to criticize the president of his own party." [33] There was a Democratic majority in Congress for most of Eisenhower's career, and Goldwater felt that President Dwight Eisenhower was compromising too much with Democrats in order to get legislation passed. Early on in his career as a senator for Arizona, he criticized the \$71.8 billion budget that President Eisenhower sent to Congress, stating, "Now, however, I am not so sure. A \$71.8 billion budget not only shocks me, but it weakens my faith." [34] Goldwater opposed Eisenhower's pick of Earl Warren for Chief Justice of the United States. "The day that Eisenhower appointed Governor Earl Warren of California as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Goldwater did not hesitate to express his misgivings." [35] However, Goldwater was present in the United States Senate on March 1, 1954, when Warren was unanimously confirmed, [36] voted in favor of Eisenhower's nomination of John Marshall Harlan II on March 16, 1955, [37] was present for the unanimous nominations of William J. Brennan Jr. and Charles Evans Whittaker on March 19, 1957, [38] and voted in favor of the nomination of Potter Stewart on May 5, 1959. [39]

Stance on civil rights

In his first year in the Senate, Goldwater was responsible for the desegregation of the Senate cafeteria after he insisted that his Black legislative assistant, Katherine Maxwell, be served along with every other Senate employee. [40]

Goldwater and the Eisenhower administration supported the integration of schools in the South, but Goldwater felt the states should choose how they wanted to integrate and should not be forced by the federal government. "Goldwater criticized the use of federal troops. He accused the Eisenhower administration of violating the Constitution by assuming powers reserved by the states. While he agreed that under the law, every state should have integrated its schools, each state should integrate in its own way." [41] There were high-ranking government officials following Goldwater's critical stance on the Eisenhower administration, even an Army General. "Fulbright's startling revelation that military personnel were being indoctrinated with the idea that the policies of the Commander in Chief were treasonous dovetailed with the return to the news of the strange case of General Edwin Walker." [42]

In his 1960 book *The Conscience of a Conservative*, Goldwater stated that he supported the stated objectives of the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, but argued that the federal government had no role in ordering states to desegregate public schools. He wrote:

I believe that it is both wise and just for negro children to attend the same schools as whites, and that to deny them this opportunity carries with it strong implications of inferiority. I am not prepared, however, to impose that judgement of mine on the people of Mississippi or South Carolina, or to tell them what methods should be adopted and what pace should be kept in striving toward that goal. That is their business, not mine. I believe that the problem of race relations, like all social and cultural problems, is best handled by the people directly concerned. Social and cultural change, however desirable, should not be effected by the engines of national power." [43]

Goldwater voted in favor of both the Civil Rights Act of 1957 and the 24th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, but did not vote on the Civil Rights Act of 1960 because he was absent from the chamber while Senate Minority Whip Thomas Kuchel (R-CA) announced that Goldwater would have voted in favor if present. [44] [45] [46] [47] While he did vote in favor of it while in committee, Goldwater reluctantly voted against the Civil Rights Act of 1964 when it came to the floor. [48] Later, Goldwater would state that he was mostly in support of the bill, but he disagreed with Titles II and VII, which both dealt with employment,

making him imply that the law would end in the government dictating hiring and firing policy for millions of Americans.[49] Congressional Republicans overwhelmingly supported the bill, with Goldwater being joined by only five other Republican senators in voting against it.[50][51] It is likely that Goldwater significantly underestimated the effect this would have, as his vote against the bill hurt him with voters across the country, including from his own party. In the 1990s, Goldwater would call his vote on the Civil Rights Act "one of his greatest regrets." [31] Goldwater was absent from the Senate during President John F. Kennedy's nomination of Byron White to Supreme Court on April 11, 1962,[52] but was present when Arthur Goldberg was unanimously confirmed. [53]

1964 presidential election

See also: 1964 United States presidential election

Goldwater's direct style had made him extremely popular with the Republican Party's suburban conservative voters, based in the South and the senator's native West. Following the success of *The Conscience of a Conservative*, Goldwater became the frontrunner for the GOP Presidential nomination to run against John F. Kennedy.[54] Despite their disagreements on politics, Goldwater and Kennedy had grown to become close friends during the eight years they served alongside each other in the Senate. With Goldwater the clear GOP frontrunner, he and Kennedy began planning to campaign together, holding Lincoln-Douglas style debates across the country and avoiding a race defined by the kind of negative attacks that were increasingly coming to define American politics.[55][56]

Republican primary

See also: Barry Goldwater 1964 presidential campaign and 1964 Republican Party presidential primaries

Republican primaries results by state

- No primary held

- John W. Byrnes

- Barry Goldwater

- Henry Cabot Lodge Jr.

- James A. Rhodes

- Nelson Rockefeller

- William W. Scranton

In South Dakota and Florida, Goldwater finished second to "unpledged delegates", but he finished before all other candidates.

Goldwater was grief-stricken[57] by the assassination of Kennedy and was greatly disappointed that his opponent in 1964 would not be Kennedy but instead his vice president, former Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas.[58]

Goldwater disliked Johnson, later telling columnist John Kolbe that Johnson had "used every dirty trick in the bag." [59]

At the time of Goldwater's presidential candidacy, the Republican Party was split between its conservative wing (based in the West and South) and moderate/liberal wing, sometimes called Rockefeller Republicans (based in the Northeast and Midwest). Goldwater alarmed even some of his fellow partisans with his brand of staunch fiscal conservatism and militant anti-communism. He was viewed by many moderate and liberal Republicans as being too far on the right wing of the political spectrum to appeal to the mainstream majority necessary to win a national election. As a result, moderate and liberal Republicans recruited a series of opponents, including New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller, Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania Governor William Scranton, to challenge him. Goldwater received solid backing from most of the few Southern Republicans then in politics. A young Birmingham lawyer, John Grenier, secured commitments from 271 of 279 Southern convention delegates to back Goldwater. Grenier would serve as executive director of the national GOP during the Goldwater campaign, the number two position to party chairman Dean Burch of Arizona. Goldwater fought and won a multi-candidate race for the Republican Party's presidential nomination.

1964 Republican National Convention

See also: 1964 Republican National Convention

Eisenhower gave his support to Goldwater when he told reporters, "I personally believe that Goldwater is not an extremist as some people have made him, but in any event we're all Republicans." [60] His nomination was staunchly opposed by the so-called Liberal Republicans, who thought Goldwater's demand for active measures to defeat the Soviet Union would foment a nuclear war. In addition to Rockefeller, prominent Republican office-holders refused to endorse Goldwater's candidacy, including both Republican senators from New York Kenneth B. Keating and Jacob Javits, Pennsylvania governor William Scranton, Michigan governor George Romney and Congressman John V. Lindsay (NY-17). [61] Rockefeller Republican Jackie Robinson walked out of the convention in disgust over Goldwater's nomination. Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., who was Richard Nixon's running mate in 1960, also opposed Goldwater, calling his proposal of realigning the Democrat and Republican parties into two Liberal and Conservative parties "totally abhorrent" and thought that no one in their right mind should oppose the federal government in having a role in the future of America. [62][63][64]

In the face of such opposition, Goldwater delivered a well-received acceptance speech. According to the author Lee Edwards: "[Goldwater] devoted more care [to it] than to any other speech in his political career. And with good reason: he would deliver it to the largest and most attentive audience of his life." [65] Journalist John Adams commented: "his acceptance speech was bold, reflecting his conservative views, but not irrational. Rather than shrinking from those critics who accuse him of extremism, Goldwater challenged them head-on" in his acceptance speech at the 1964 Republican Convention. [66] In his own words:

I would remind you that extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice! [40 seconds of applause by the crowd] And let me remind you also that moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue! [10 seconds of applause] [67][68][69]

His paraphrase of Cicero was included at the suggestion of Harry V. Jaffa, though the speech was primarily written by Karl Hess. Because of President Johnson's popularity, Goldwater refrained from attacking the president directly. He did not mention Johnson by name at all in his convention speech. [citation needed]

Although raised as an Episcopalian, [70] Goldwater was the first candidate of Jewish descent, through his father, to be nominated for president by a major American party. [71][72]

1964 general presidential campaign

President Lyndon B. Johnson with U.S. Senator Goldwater on January 16, 1964
After securing the Republican presidential nomination, Goldwater chose his political ally, RNC Chairman William E. Miller, to be his running mate. Goldwater joked he chose Miller because "he drives Johnson nuts". [73] In choosing Miller, Goldwater opted for a running mate who was ideologically aligned with his own conservative wing of the Republican party. Miller balanced the ticket in other ways, being a practicing Catholic from the East Coast. [73] Miller had low name recognition [73] but was popular in the Republican party and viewed as a skilled political strategist. [74]

Former U.S. senator Prescott Bush, a moderate Republican from Connecticut, was a friend of Goldwater and supported him in the general election campaign.

Future chief justice of the United States and fellow Arizonan William H. Rehnquist also first came to the attention of national Republicans through his work as a legal adviser to Goldwater's presidential campaign. Rehnquist had begun his law practice in 1953 in the firm of Denison Kitchel of Phoenix, Goldwater's national campaign manager and friend of nearly three decades. [75]

Goldwater's advocacy of active interventionism to prevent the spread of communism and defend American values and allies led to effective counterattacks from Lyndon B. Johnson and his supporters, who said that Goldwater's militancy

would have dire consequences, possibly even nuclear war. In a May 1964 speech, Goldwater suggested that nuclear weapons should be treated more like conventional weapons and used in Vietnam, specifically that they should have been used at Dien Bien Phu in 1954 to defoliate trees.[76] Regarding Vietnam, Goldwater charged that Johnson's policy was devoid of "goal, course, or purpose," leaving "only sudden death in the jungles and the slow strangulation of freedom".[77] Goldwater's rhetoric on nuclear war was viewed by many as quite uncompromising, a view buttressed by off-hand comments such as, "Let's lob one into the men's room at the Kremlin." [78] He also advocated that field commanders in Vietnam and Europe should be given the authority to use tactical nuclear weapons (which he called "small conventional nuclear weapons") without presidential confirmation.[79]

A bumper sticker from Goldwater's 1964 presidential campaign, representing the Goldwater surname as Au = gold and H2O = water=

Goldwater countered the Johnson attacks by criticizing the administration for its perceived ethical lapses, and stating in a commercial that "we, as a nation, are not far from the kind of moral decay that has brought on the fall of other nations and people.... I say it is time to put conscience back in government. And by good example, put it back in all walks of American life." Goldwater campaign commercials included statements of support by actor Raymond Massey[80] and moderate Republican senator Margaret Chase Smith.[81]

Before the 1964 election, Fact magazine, published by Ralph Ginzburg, ran a special issue titled, "The Unconscious of a Conservative: A Special Issue on the Mind of Barry Goldwater". The two main articles contended that Goldwater was mentally unfit to be president. The magazine supported this claim with the results of a poll of board-certified psychiatrists. Fact had mailed questionnaires to 12,356 psychiatrists, receiving responses from 2,417, of whom 1,189 said Goldwater was mentally incapable of holding the office of president. Most of the other respondents declined to diagnose Goldwater because they had not clinically interviewed him but said that, although not psychologically unfit to preside, Goldwater would be negligent in the role.[82][83]

After the election, Goldwater sued the publisher, the editor and the magazine for libel in *Goldwater v. Ginzburg*. "Although the jury awarded Goldwater only \$1.00 in compensatory damages against all three defendants, it went on to award him punitive damages of \$25,000 against Ginzburg and \$50,000 against Fact magazine, Inc." [84] According to Warren Boroson, then-managing editor of Fact and later a financial columnist, the main biography of Goldwater in the magazine was written by David Bar-Illan, the Israeli pianist.[85]

Political advertising

See also: Daisy (advertisement)

Duration: 1 minute and 1 second.1:01Subtitles available.CC

President Johnson's anti-Goldwater "Daisy" advertisement

A Democratic campaign advertisement known as Daisy showed a young girl counting daisy petals, from one to ten. Immediately following this scene, a voiceover counted down from ten to one. The child's face was shown as a still photograph followed by images of nuclear explosions and mushroom clouds. The campaign advertisement ended with a plea to vote for Johnson, implying that Goldwater (though not mentioned by name) would provoke a nuclear war if elected. The advertisement, which featured only a few spoken words and relied on imagery for its emotional impact, was one of the most provocative in American political campaign history, and many analysts credit it as being the birth of the modern style of "negative political ads" on television. The ad aired only once and was immediately pulled, but it was then shown many times by local television stations covering the controversy.[86]

Goldwater did not have ties to the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), but he was publicly endorsed by members of the organization.[87][88] Lyndon B. Johnson exploited this association during the elections,[89][90][91] but Goldwater barred the KKK from supporting him and denounced them.[92]

Throughout the presidential campaign, Goldwater refused to appeal to racial tensions or backlash against civil rights. After the outbreak of the Harlem riot of 1964, Goldwater privately gathered news reporters on his campaign plane and said that if anyone attempted to sow racial violence on his political behalf, he would withdraw from the presidential race—even if it was the day before the election.[93]

Past comments came back to haunt Goldwater throughout the campaign. He had once called the Eisenhower administration "a dime-store New Deal", and the former president never fully forgave him. However, Eisenhower did film a television commercial with Goldwater.[94] Eisenhower qualified his voting for Goldwater in November by remarking that he had voted not specifically for Goldwater, but for the Republican Party.[95] In December 1961, Goldwater had told a news conference that "sometimes I think this country would be better off if we could just saw off the Eastern Seaboard and let it float out to sea." That comment boomeranged on him during the campaign in the form of a Johnson television commercial,[96] as did remarks about making Social Security voluntary,[97] and statements in Tennessee about selling the Tennessee Valley Authority, a large local New Deal employer.[98]

The Goldwater campaign spotlighted Ronald Reagan, who appeared in a campaign ad.[99] In turn, Reagan gave a stirring, nationally televised speech, "A Time for Choosing", in support of Goldwater.

Results

Electoral College results by state

Goldwater only won his home state of Arizona and five states in the Deep South. The Southern states, traditionally Democratic up to that time, voted Republican primarily as a statement of opposition to the Civil Rights Act,[100] which had been signed into law by Johnson earlier that year. Despite Johnson's support for the Civil Rights Act, the bill received split support from Congressional Democrats due to southerner opposition. In contrast, Congressional Republicans overwhelmingly supported the bill, with Goldwater being joined by only 5 other Republican senators in voting against it.[50][51]

In the end, Goldwater received 38% of the popular vote and carried just six states: his home state of Arizona (with 51% of the popular vote) and the core states of the Deep South: Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and South Carolina. All except Arizona were states that had voted against Republican nominee Richard Nixon just four years earlier. In carrying Georgia by a margin of 54-45%, Goldwater became the first Republican nominee to win the state.

Goldwater's poor showing pulled down many supporters. Of the 57 Republican Congressmen who endorsed Goldwater before the convention, 20 were defeated for reelection, along with many promising young Republicans. In contrast, Republican Congressman John Lindsay (NY-17), who refused to endorse Goldwater, was handily re-elected in a district where Democrats held a 10% overall advantage.[101] On the other hand, the defeat of so many older politicians created openings for young conservatives to move up the ladder. While the loss of moderate Republicans was temporary—they were back by 1966—Goldwater also permanently pulled many conservative Southerners and whites out of the New Deal Coalition.[102]

According to Steve Kornacki of Salon, "Goldwater broke through and won five [Southern] states—the best showing in the region for a GOP candidate since Reconstruction. In Mississippi—where Franklin D. Roosevelt had won nearly 100 percent of the vote 28 years earlier—Goldwater claimed a staggering 87 percent." [103] It has frequently been argued that Goldwater's strong performance in Southern states previously regarded as Democratic strongholds foreshadowed a larger shift in electoral trends in the coming decades that would make the South a Republican bastion (an end to the "Solid South")—first in presidential politics and eventually at the congressional and state levels, as well.[104]

Also, Goldwater's uncompromising promotion of freedom was the start of a continuing shift in American politics from liberalism to a conservative economic philosophy.[105]

Return to U.S. Senate

Goldwater speaking at the 1968 Republican National Convention

Goldwater meeting with President Ronald Reagan in the Oval Office in December 1984

Throughout the late 1970s, as the conservative wing under Ronald Reagan gained control of the Republican Party, Goldwater concentrated on his Senate duties, especially in military affairs. Goldwater purportedly did not like Richard Nixon on either a political or personal level, later calling the California Republican "the most dishonest individual I have ever met in my life".[58] Accordingly, he played little part in Nixon's election or administration, but he helped force Nixon's resignation in 1974.[106] On August 7, 1974, at the height of the Watergate scandal, Goldwater led a delegation, which also included House Republican Leader John Jacob Rhodes and Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott, who met with Nixon at the White House and urged him to resign.[107] At the time, Nixon's impeachment by the House of Representatives was imminent and Goldwater warned him that fewer than 10 Republican senators would vote against conviction.[108]

Despite being a difficult year for Republicans candidates, the 1974 election saw Goldwater easily reelected over his Democratic opponent, Jonathan Marshall, the publisher of The Scottsdale Progress.[109]

With regard to the 1976 Republican ticket, Goldwater helped block Nelson Rockefeller's renomination as vice president. When Reagan challenged Gerald Ford for the presidential nomination in 1976, Goldwater endorsed the incumbent Ford, looking for consensus rather than conservative idealism. As one historian notes, "The Arizonan had lost much of his zest for battle." [110][111][112]

In 1979, when President Carter normalized relations with Communist China, Goldwater and some other Senators sued him in the Supreme Court, arguing that the President could not terminate the Sino-American Mutual Defense Treaty with the Republic of China (Taiwan) without the approval of Congress. The case, Goldwater v. Carter (444 U.S. 996), was dismissed by the court as a political question.

On June 9, 1969, Goldwater was absent during President Nixon's nomination of Warren E. Burger as Chief Justice of the United States while Senate Minority Whip Hugh Scott announced that Goldwater would have voted in favor if present.[113] Goldwater voted in favor of Nixon's failed Supreme Court nomination of Clement Haynsworth on November 21, 1969,[114] and a few months later, Goldwater voted in favor of Nixon's failed Supreme Court nomination of Harrold Carswell on April 8, 1970.[115] The following month, Goldwater was absent when Nixon nominee Harry Blackmun was confirmed on May 12, 1970, while Senate Minority Whip Robert P. Griffin announced that Goldwater would have voted in favor if present.[116] On December 6, 1971, Goldwater voted in favor of Nixon's nomination of Lewis F. Powell Jr.,[117] and on December 10, Goldwater voted in favor of Nixon's nomination of William Rehnquist as Associate Justice.[118] On December 17, 1975, Goldwater voted in favor of President Gerald Ford's nomination of John Paul Stevens to the Supreme Court.[119]

Final campaign and U.S. Senate term

President Reagan and U.S. Senator Goldwater award retired U.S. Air Force General Jimmy Doolittle with a fourth star in April 1985

With his fourth Senate term due to end in January 1981, Goldwater seriously considered retiring from the Senate in 1980 before deciding to run for one final term. It was a surprisingly tough campaign for re-election. Goldwater was viewed by some as out of touch and vulnerable for several reasons, chiefly because he

had planned to retire in 1981 and he had not visited many areas of Arizona outside of Phoenix and Tucson. Additionally, his Democratic challenger, Bill Schulz, proved to be a formidable opponent. A former Republican and a wealthy real estate developer, Schulz's campaign slogan was "Energy for the Eighties." Arizona's changing population also hurt Goldwater. The state's population had greatly increased, and a large portion of the electorate had not lived in the state at the time Goldwater was previously elected, meaning unlike most incumbents, many voters were less familiar with Goldwater's actual beliefs. Goldwater spent most of the campaign on the defensive. Although he was eventually declared as the winning candidate in the general election by a very narrow margin, receiving 49.5% of the vote to Schulz's 48.4%, [120] early returns on election night indicated that Schulz would win. The counting of votes continued through the night and into the next morning. At around daybreak, Goldwater learned that he had been reelected thanks to absentee ballots, which were among the last to be counted. [121]

Goldwater's close victory in 1980 came despite Reagan's 61% landslide over Jimmy Carter in Arizona. Despite Goldwater's struggles, in 1980, Republicans were able to pick up 12 senate seats, regaining control of the chamber for the first time since 1955, when Goldwater was in his first term. Goldwater was now in the most powerful position he had ever been in the Senate. In October 1983, Goldwater voted against the legislation establishing Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a federal holiday. [122]

On September 21, 1981, Goldwater voted in favor of Reagan's Supreme Court nomination of Sandra Day O'Connor. [123] Goldwater was absent during the nominations of William Rehnquist as Chief Justice of the United States and Antonin Scalia as Associate Justice on September 17, 1986. [124] [125]

After the new Senate convened in January 1981, Goldwater became chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee. In this role he clashed with the Reagan administration in April 1984 when he discovered that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had been mining the waters of Nicaragua since February, something that he had first denied when the matter was raised. [126] In a note to the CIA director William Casey, Goldwater denounced what he called an "act of war", saying that "this is no way to run a railroad" as he stated crossly that only Congress had the power to declare war and accused the CIA of illegally mining Nicaraguan waters without the permission of Congress. [126] Goldwater concluded, "The President has asked us to back his foreign policy. Bill, how can we back his foreign policy when we don't know what the hell he is doing? Lebanon, yes, we all knew that he sent troops over there. But mine the harbors in Nicaragua? This is an act violating international law. It is an act of war. For the life of me, I don't see how we are going to explain it." [126] Goldwater felt compelled to issue an apology on the floor of the Senate because the Senate Intelligence Committee had failed in its duties to oversee the CIA as he stated, saying, "I am forced to apologize for the members of my committee because I did not know the facts on this case. And I apologize to all the members of the Senate for the same reason". [127] Goldwater subsequently voted for a Congressional resolution condemning the mining. [126]

In his 1980 Senate reelection campaign, Goldwater won support from religious conservatives but in his final term voted consistently to uphold legal abortion and in 1981 gave a speech on how he was angry about the bullying of American politicians by religious organizations and would "fight them every step of the way". [128] [129]

He introduced the 1984 Cable Franchise Policy and Communications Act, which allowed local governments to require the transmission of public, educational, and government access (PEG) channels, barred cable operators from exercising editorial control over the content of programs carried on PEG channels and absolved them from liability for their content. On May 12, 1986, Goldwater was presented with the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Reagan.

In response to Moral Majority founder Jerry Falwell's opposition to the

nomination of Sandra Day O'Connor to the Supreme Court, of which Falwell had said, "Every good Christian should be concerned", Goldwater retorted, "Every good Christian ought to kick Falwell right in the ass." [130][131] According to John Dean, Goldwater actually suggested that good Christians ought to kick Falwell in the "nuts", but the news media "changed the anatomical reference". [132][page needed] Goldwater also had harsh words for his one-time political protégé, President Reagan, particularly after the Iran-Contra Affair became public in 1986. Journalist Robert MacNeil, a friend of Goldwater's from the 1964 presidential campaign, recalled interviewing him in his office shortly afterward. "He was sitting in his office with his hands on his cane... and he said to me, 'Well, aren't you going to ask me about the Iran arms sales?' It had just been announced that the Reagan administration had sold arms to Iran. And I said, 'Well, if I asked you, what would you say?' He said, 'I'd say it's the god-damned stupidest foreign policy blunder this country's ever made!'" [133] Aside from the Iran-Contra scandal, Goldwater thought nonetheless that Reagan was a good president. [134]

Retirement

Goldwater said later that the close result in 1980 convinced him not to run again. [135] He retired in 1987, serving as Chair of the Senate Intelligence and Armed Services Committees in his final term. Despite his reputation as a firebrand in the 1960s, by the end of his career, he was considered a stabilizing influence in the Senate, one of the most respected members of either major party. Although Goldwater remained staunchly anti-communist and "hawkish" on military issues, he was a key supporter of the fight for ratification of the Panama Canal Treaty in the 1970s, which would give control of the canal zone to the Republic of Panama. His most important legislative achievement may have been the Goldwater-Nichols Act, which reorganized the U.S. military's senior-command structure.

Policies

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Conservatism
in the United States

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Politicians

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Goldwater became most associated with anti-union work and anti-communism; he was a supporter of the conservative coalition in Congress. His work on labor issues led Congress to pass major anti-labor reforms in 1957, and subsequently a

campaign by the AFL-CIO to challenge his 1958 reelection bid. He voted against the censure of Senator Joseph McCarthy in 1954, who had been making unfounded claims about communists infiltrating the U.S. State Department during the Red Scare, but never actually accused any individual of being a communist or Soviet agent. Goldwater emphasized his strong opposition to the worldwide spread of communism in his 1960 book *The Conscience of a Conservative*. The book became an important reference text in conservative political circles.

In 1964, Goldwater ran a conservative campaign that emphasized states' rights. [136] Goldwater's 1964 campaign was a magnet for conservatives since he opposed interference by the federal government in state affairs. Goldwater voted in favor of the Civil Rights Act of 1957 and the 24th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, [44][45][47] but did not vote on the Civil Rights Act of 1960 because he was absent from the chamber, with Senate Minority Whip Thomas Kuchel (R-CA) announcing that Goldwater would have voted in favor if present. [46] Though Goldwater had supported the original Senate version of the bill, Goldwater voted against the Civil Rights Act of 1964. [48] His public stance was based on his view that Article II and Article VII of the Act interfered with the rights of private persons to do or not to do business with whomever they chose and believed that the private employment provisions of the Act would lead to racial quotas. [137] In the segregated city of Phoenix in the 1950s, he had quietly supported civil rights for blacks, but would not let his name be used. [138]

All this appealed to white Southern Democrats, and Goldwater was the first Republican to win the electoral votes of all of the Deep South states (South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana) since Reconstruction. [50] However, Goldwater's vote on the Civil Rights Act proved devastating to his campaign everywhere outside the South (besides Dixie, Goldwater won only in Arizona, his home state), contributing to his landslide defeat in 1964.

Goldwater's campaign also included stringently fiscally conservative policies. Goldwater was strongly critical of Johnson's war on poverty policies and argued that it might be the "attitude or the actions" of the poor that are responsible for their hardship. In his prepared speech before the Economic Club of New York, Goldwater also claimed that arguing unemployment and poverty are caused by lack of education is "like saying that people have big feet because they wear big shoes. The fact is that most people who have no skill have no education for the same reason—low intelligence or low ambition." [139] Goldwater also called for ending agricultural subsidies, privatizing Social Security, and privatizing the Tennessee Valley Authority. [140]

While Goldwater had been depicted by his opponents in the Republican primaries as a representative of a conservative philosophy that was extreme and alien, his voting records show that his positions were in generally aligned with those of other Republicans in the Congress.

Goldwater fought in 1971 to stop U.S. funding of the United Nations after the People's Republic of China was admitted to the organization. He said:

I suggested on the floor of the Senate today that we stop all funds for the United Nations. Now, what that'll do to the United Nations, I don't know. I have a hunch it would cause them to fold up, which would make me very happy at this particular point. I think if this happens, they can well move their headquarters to Peking or Moscow and get 'em out of this country. [141]

Goldwater and revival of American conservatism
Although Goldwater was not as important in the American conservative movement as Ronald Reagan after 1965, he shaped and redefined the movement from the late 1950s to 1964. Arizona Senator John McCain, who succeeded Goldwater in the Senate in 1987, said of Goldwater's legacy, "He transformed the Republican Party from an Eastern elitist organization to the breeding ground for the election of Ronald Reagan." [142] Columnist George Will remarked that Reagan's victory in the 1980 presidential election was the metaphoric culmination of 16 years of

counting the votes for Goldwater from the 1964 presidential race.[143]

The Republican Party recovered from the 1964 election debacle, acquiring 47 seats in the House of Representatives in the 1966 mid-term election. In January 1969, after Goldwater had been re-elected to the Senate, he wrote an article in the *National Review* "affirming that he [was] not against liberals, that liberals are needed as a counterweight to conservatism, and that he had in mind a fine liberal like Max Lerner." [144]

Goldwater was a strong supporter of environmental protection, saying in 1965:

I feel very definitely that the [Nixon] administration is absolutely correct in cracking down on companies and corporations and municipalities that continue to pollute the nation's air and water. While I am a great believer in the free competitive enterprise system and all that it entails, I am an even stronger believer in the right of our people to live in a clean and pollution-free environment. To this end, it is my belief that when pollution is found, it should be halted at the source, even if this requires stringent government action against important segments of our national economy.[145]

Later life
Part of a series on
Libertarianism
in the United States

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Goldwater signing autographs at the Fiesta Bowl parade in 1983
By the 1980s, with Ronald Reagan as president and the growing involvement of the religious right in conservative politics, Goldwater's libertarian views on personal issues were revealed; he believed that they were an integral part of true conservatism. Goldwater viewed abortion as a matter of personal choice and as such supported abortion rights.[146] As a passionate defender of personal liberty, he saw the religious right's views as an encroachment on personal privacy and individual liberties.[147] Although he voted against making Martin Luther King's birthday a national holiday in his last term as senator, Goldwater later expressed support for it.[148]

In 1987, he received the Langley Gold Medal from the Smithsonian Institution. In 1988, Princeton University's American Whig-Clisophic Society awarded Goldwater the James Madison Award for Distinguished Public Service in recognition of his career.[149]

After his retirement in 1987, Goldwater described Arizona Governor Evan Mecham as "hardheaded" and called on him to resign, and two years later stated that the Republican party had been taken over by a "bunch of kooks".[150]

During the 1988 presidential campaign, he told vice-presidential nominee Dan Quayle at a campaign event in Arizona, "I want you to go back and tell George Bush to start talking about the issues." [151]

Some of Goldwater's statements in the 1990s alienated many social conservatives. He endorsed Democrat Karan English in an Arizona congressional race, urged Republicans to lay off Bill Clinton over the Whitewater scandal, and criticized the military's ban on homosexuals, [152] saying, "Everyone knows that gays have served honorably in the military since at least the time of Julius Caesar", [153] and, "You don't need to be 'straight' to fight and die for your country. You just need to shoot straight." [154] A few years before his death, he addressed establishment Republicans by saying, "Do not associate my name with anything you do. You are extremists, and you've hurt the Republican party much more than the Democrats have." [155]

In a 1994 interview with The Washington Post, Goldwater said:

When you say "radical right" today, I think of these moneymaking ventures by fellows like Pat Robertson and others who are trying to take the Republican party and make a religious organization out of it. If that ever happens, kiss politics goodbye. [152]

Also in November 1994, he repeated his concerns about religious groups attempting to gain control of the Republican party, saying, [156]

[The] Republicans are selling their soul to win elections. Mark my word, if and when these preachers get control of the party, and they're sure trying to do so, it's going to be a terrible damn problem. Frankly, these people frighten me. Politics and governing demand compromise. The government won't work without it. But these Christians believe they are acting in the name of God, so they can't and won't compromise. I know, I've tried to deal with them.

In 1996, he told Bob Dole, whose own presidential campaign received lukewarm support from conservative Republicans, "We're the new liberals of the Republican party. Can you imagine that?" [157] In that same year, with Senator Dennis DeConcini, Goldwater endorsed an Arizona initiative to legalize medical marijuana against the countervailing opinion of social conservatives. [158]

Personal life

In 1934, Goldwater married Margaret "Peggy" Johnson, daughter of a prominent industrialist from Muncie, Indiana. The couple had four children: Joanne (born January 18, 1936), Barry Jr. (born July 15, 1938), Michael (born March 15, 1940), and Peggy (born July 27, 1944). Goldwater became a widower in 1985 and, in 1992, he married Susan Wechsler, a nurse 32 years his junior. [159] Goldwater's son Barry Goldwater Jr. served as a Republican Congressman, representing California from 1969 to 1983.

Goldwater's grandson, Ty Ross, is an interior designer and former Zoli model. Ross, who is openly gay and HIV positive, has been credited as inspiring the elder Goldwater "to become an octogenarian proponent of gay civil rights". [160] [161]

Goldwater ran track [162] and cross country in high school, where he specialized in the 880 yard run. In 1940, he became one of the first to run the Colorado River recreationally through the Grand Canyon, participating as an oarsman on Norman Nevills' second commercial river trip. Goldwater joined them in Green River, Utah, and rowed his own boat down to Lake Mead. [163] In 1970, the Arizona Historical Foundation published the daily journal Goldwater had maintained on the Grand Canyon journey, including his photographs, in a 209-page volume titled *Delightful Journey*.

In 1963, he joined the Arizona Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was also a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American

Legion, and Sigma Chi fraternity. He belonged to both the York Rite and Scottish Rite of Freemasonry and was awarded the 33rd degree in the Scottish Rite.

Hobbies and interests

Amateur radio

Goldwater was an avid amateur radio operator from the early 1920s, with the call signs 6BPI, K3UIG and K7UGA.[164][165] The last one is used by an Arizona club honoring him as a commemorative call. During the Vietnam War he was a Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) operator.[166]

Goldwater was a spokesman for amateur radio and its enthusiasts. Beginning in 1969 and for the rest of his life, he appeared in many educational and promotional films (and later videos) about the hobby, produced for the American Radio Relay League (the national society representing the interests of radio amateurs) by such producers as Dave Bell (W6AQ), ARRL Southwest Director John R. Griggs (W6KW), Alan Kaul (W6RCL), Forrest Oden (N6ENV), and Roy Neal (K6DUE). His first appearance was in Dave Bell's *The World of Amateur Radio* where Goldwater discussed the history of the hobby and demonstrated a live contact with Antarctica. His last on-screen appearance dealing with "ham radio" was in 1994, explaining an upcoming Earth-orbiting ham radio relay satellite.[citation needed]

Electronics was a hobby for Goldwater beyond amateur radio. He enjoyed assembling Heathkits,[167] completing more than 100 and often visiting their maker in Benton Harbor, Michigan, to buy more, before the company exited the kit business in 1992.[168]

Kachina dolls

Further information: Hopi Kachina figure

Most of the Kachina dolls at the Heard Museum were donated by Goldwater. In 1916, Goldwater visited the Hopi reservation with Phoenix architect John Rinker Kibby and obtained his first kachina doll. Eventually his collection had 437 dolls and was presented in 1969 to the Heard Museum in Phoenix.[169]

Photography

Goldwater was an amateur photographer and, in his estate, left some 15,000 of his images to three Arizona institutions. He was keen on candid photography. He became interested in the hobby after receiving a camera as a gift from his wife on their first Christmas. He used a 4×5 Graflex, Rolleiflex, 16 mm Bell and Howell motion picture camera, and 35 mm Nikkormat FT. He was a member of the Royal Photographic Society from 1941, becoming a Life Member in 1948.[170]

For decades, he contributed photographs of his home state to *Arizona Highways* and was recognized for his Western landscapes and pictures of native Americans in the United States. Three books with his photographs are *People and Places* (1967); *Barry Goldwater and the Southwest* (1976); and *Delightful Journey*, (1940, reprinted 1970). Ansel Adams wrote a foreword to the 1976 book.[171]

Goldwater's photography interest occasionally crossed into his political career. John F. Kennedy, as president, would sometimes invite former congressional colleagues to the White House for a drink. On one occasion, Goldwater brought his camera and photographed President Kennedy. When Kennedy received the photo, he returned it to Goldwater with the inscription: "For Barry Goldwater—Whom I urge to follow the career for which he has shown such talent—photography!—from his friend—John Kennedy." This quip became a classic of American political humor after it was relayed by humorist Bennett Cerf. The photo was prized by Goldwater for the rest of his life and sold for \$17,925 in a 2010 Heritage auction.[172]

Son Michael Prescott Goldwater formed the Goldwater Family Foundation with the goal of making his father's photography available via the internet. (Barry Goldwater Photographs) was launched in September 2006 to coincide with the HBO documentary *Mr. Conservative*, produced by granddaughter CC Goldwater.

UFOs

On March 28, 1975, Goldwater wrote to Shlomo Arnon: "The subject of UFOs has interested me for some long time. About ten or twelve years ago I made an effort to find out what was in the building at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base where the information has been stored that has been collected by the Air Force, and I was understandably denied this request. It is still classified above Top Secret." [173] Goldwater further wrote that there were rumors the evidence would be released, and that he was "just as anxious to see this material as you are, and I hope we will not have to wait much longer". [173][174][175] The April 25, 1988, issue of The New Yorker carried an interview with Goldwater in which he recounted efforts to gain access to the room. [176] He did so again in a 1994 Larry King Live interview, saying: [174][175]

I think the government does know. I can't back that up, but I think that at Wright-Patterson field, if you could get into certain places, you'd find out what the Air Force and the government knows about UFOs ... I called Curtis LeMay and I said, 'General, I know we have a room at Wright-Patterson where you put all this secret stuff. Could I go in there?' I've never heard him get mad, but he got madder than hell at me, cussed me out, and said, 'Don't ever ask me that question again!' [177]

Death

The Goldwater Crypt, #64, at Episcopal Christ Church of the Ascension in Paradise Valley, Arizona

Goldwater's public appearances ended in late 1996 after he had a massive stroke. Family members disclosed he was also in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease. He died on May 29, 1998, at the age of 89, at his long-time home in Paradise Valley, Arizona, of complications from the stroke. [178] His funeral was officiated by both a Christian minister and a rabbi. [179][180] His ashes were buried at Episcopal Christ Church of the Ascension in Paradise Valley. [181] A memorial statue was erected in a small park in Paradise Valley near his home and resting place, honoring his memory.

Legacy

Buildings and monuments

Among the buildings and monuments named after Barry Goldwater are the Barry M. Goldwater Terminal at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, Goldwater Memorial Park [182] in Paradise Valley, Arizona, the Barry Goldwater Air Force Academy Visitor Center at the United States Air Force Academy, and Barry Goldwater High School in northern Phoenix. In 2010, former Arizona Attorney General Grant Woods, himself a Goldwater scholar and supporter, founded the Goldwater Women's Tennis Classic Tournament to be held annually at the Phoenix Country Club in Phoenix. [183] On February 11, 2015, a statue of Goldwater by Deborah Copenhaver Fellows was unveiled by U.S. House and Senate leaders at a dedication ceremony in National Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C. [184] Barry Goldwater Peak is the highest peak in the White Tank Mountains. [185]

On December 9, 2016, Phoenix Sky Harbor Air National Guard Base was renamed Goldwater Air National Guard Base in honor of him. [186]

Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship

Main article: Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program was established by Congress in 1986. [187] Its goal is to provide a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians, and engineers by awarding scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in these fields.

The Scholarship is widely considered the most prestigious award in the U.S. conferred upon undergraduates studying the sciences. It is awarded to about 400 students (college sophomores and juniors) nationwide in the amount of \$7,500 per academic year (for their senior year, or junior and senior years). [188] It honors Goldwater's keen interest in science and technology.

Documentary

Goldwater's granddaughter, CC Goldwater, has co-produced with longtime friend and independent film producer Tani L. Cohen a documentary on Goldwater's life, *Mr. Conservative: Goldwater on Goldwater*, first shown on HBO on September 18, 2006.[189]

In popular culture

In his song "I Shall Be Free No. 10", Bob Dylan refers to Goldwater: "I'm liberal to a degree, I want everybody to be free. But if you think I'll let Barry Goldwater move in next door and marry my daughter, you must think I'm crazy." [190] In the 1965 film *The Bedford Incident*, the actor Richard Widmark playing the film's antagonist, Captain Eric Finlander of the fictional destroyer USS *Bedford*, modeled his character's mannerisms and rhetorical style after Goldwater.[191]

Military awards

Air Medal

American Campaign Medal

American Defense Service Medal

Armed Forces Reserve Medal with three bronze hourglasses

Army Commendation Medal

Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with campaign star

Command Pilot Badge

European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal

Legion of Merit

Service Pilot Badge (former U.S. Army Air Forces rating)

World War II Victory Medal

Other awards

Presidential Medal of Freedom (1986)

American Legion Distinguished Service Medal

Marconi Gold Medal, Veteran Wireless Operators Association (1968)

Marconi Medal of Achievement (1968)

Bob Hope Five Star Civilian Award (1976)

Good Citizenship Award, Daughters of the American Revolution

33rd Degree Mason

The Douglas MacArthur Memorial Award

Top Gun Award, Luke Air Force Base

Order of Fifinella Award – Champion of the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) (1978)

Thomas D. White National Defense Award 1978

Conservative Digest Award (1980)

Senator John Warner Award for Public Service in the field of Nuclear Disarmament (1983)

Alexander M. Haig, Jr. Memorial Award (1983)

National Congress of American Indians Congressional Award (1985)

Space Pioneer Award, Sixth Space Development Conference (1987)

James Madison Award, American Whig-Clisosophic Society (1988)

National Aviation Hall of Fame (1982)[192]

Books

The Conscience of a Conservative (1960)

Why Not Victory? A Fresh Look at American Policy (1963)

Where I Stand (1964)

Conscience of a Majority (1971)

The Coming Breakpoint (1976)

Arizona (1977)

With No Apologies: The Personal and Political Memoirs of Senator Barry M. Goldwater (1980)

Goldwater (1988)

Relatives

Goldwater's son Barry Goldwater Jr. served as a Congressman from California from 1969 to 1983. He was the first Congressman to serve while having a father in the Senate. Goldwater's uncle Morris Goldwater served in the Arizona territorial and state legislatures and as mayor of Prescott, Arizona. Goldwater's nephew Don

Goldwater sought the Republican nomination for governor of Arizona in 2006, but he was defeated by Len Munsil.

See also

Electoral history of Barry Goldwater

Goldwater Institute

Goldwater rule

Libertarianism in the United States

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The Goldwater Institute

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Works by Barry Goldwater in eBook form at Standard Ebooks

Party political offices

Preceded by

Ward Powers

Republican nominee for U.S. Senator from Arizona (Class 1)

1952, 1958 Succeeded by

Paul Fannin

Preceded by

Styles Bridges

Chair of the National Republican Senatorial Committee

1955-1957 Succeeded by

Everett Dirksen

Preceded by

Andrew Schoeppel

Chair of the National Republican Senatorial Committee

1961-1963 Succeeded by

Thruston Morton

Preceded by

Richard Nixon

Republican nominee for President of the United States

1964 Succeeded by

Richard Nixon

Preceded by

Evan Mecham

Republican nominee for U.S. Senator from Arizona (Class 3)

1968, 1974, 1980 Succeeded by

John McCain

U.S. Senate

Preceded by

Ernest McFarland

U.S. Senator (Class 1) from Arizona

1953-1965

Served alongside: Carl Hayden Succeeded by

Paul Fannin

Preceded by

H. Alexander Smith

Ranking Member of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee

1959-1965 Succeeded by

Jacob Javits

Preceded by

Carl Hayden

U.S. Senator (Class 3) from Arizona

1969-1987

Served alongside: Paul Fannin, Dennis DeConcini Succeeded by

John McCain

Preceded by

Carl Curtis

Ranking Member of the Senate Space Committee

1973-1977 Office abolished

Preceded by

Mark Hatfield

Ranking Member of the Senate Intelligence Committee

1979-1981 Succeeded by

Daniel Patrick Moynihan

Preceded by

Birch Bayh
Chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee
1981–1985 Succeeded by
David Durenberger
Preceded by
John Tower
Chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee
1985–1987 Succeeded by
Sam Nunn
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Barry Goldwater
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Black-and-white head shot of Goldwater smiling
Elections
195219581964 presidential campaign1964 Republican National Convention1964 United
States presidential election196819741980
Family
Barry Goldwater Jr. (son)
Other
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Goldwater Air Force RangeGoldwater Institute
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Chairmen of the National Republican Senatorial Committee
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Chairs of the United States Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
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(← 1956) 1960 United States presidential election (→ 1964)
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(← 1960) 1964 United States presidential election (→ 1968)
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Arizona's delegation(s) to the 83rd–88th & 91st–99th United States Congresses
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rexresearch.com
Wilbert B SMITH

Project Magnet

This formerly "Top Secret" document was retrieved from the University of Ottawa Library archives by Nick Balaskas (York University). For more detailed information about Wilbert Smith (biography, videos, &c.), visit:

<http://www.presidentialufos.com>

See also: W. Smith: The New Science

Wilbert B. Smith

Geo-Magnetics
(Ottawa, Ont., November 24, 1950)
Memorandum to the Controller of Telecommunications:

For the past several years we have been engaged in the study of various aspects of radio wave propagation. The vagaries of this phenomenon have led us into the fields of aurora, cosmic radiation, atmospheric radio-activity, and geo-magnetism. In the case of geo-magnetics our investigations have contributed little to our knowledge of radio wave propagation as yet, but nevertheless have indicated several avenues of investigation which may well be explored with profit. For example, we are on the track of a means whereby the potential energy of the earth's magnetic field may be abstracted and used.

On the basis of theoretical considerations a small and very crude experimental unit was constructed approximately a year ago and tested in our Standards Laboratory. The tests were essentially successful in that sufficient energy was abstracted from the earth's field to operate a voltmeter, approximately 50 millivolts. Although this unit was far from being self-sustaining, it nevertheless demonstrated the soundness of the basic principles in a qualitative manner and provided useful data for the design of a better unit.

The design is now completed for a unit which should be self-sustaining and in addition provide a small surplus of power. Such a unit, in addition to functioning as a "pilot power plant" should be large enough to permit the study of the various reaction forces which are expected to develop.

We believe that we are on the track of something which may well prove to be the introduction of a new technology. The existence of a different technology is

borne out by the investigations which are being carried on at the present time in relation to flying saucers.

While in Washington attending the NARB Conference, two books were released, one titled "Behind the Flying Saucers" by Frank Scully, and the other "The Flying Saucers are Real" by Donald Keyhoe. Both books deal mostly with the sightings of unidentified objects and both books claim that flying object were of extra-terrestrial origin and might well be space ships from another planet. Scully claimed that the preliminary studies of one saucer that fell into the hands of the United States Government indicated that they operated on some hitherto unknown magnetic principles. It appeared to me that our own work in geo-magnetics might well be the linkage between our technology and the technology by which the saucers are designed and operated. If it is assumed that our geo-magnetic investigations are in the right direction, the theory of operation of the saucers becomes quite straightforward, with all observed features explained qualitatively and quantitatively.

I made discrete inquiries through the Canadian Embassy staff in Washington who were able to obtain for me the following information;

- a. The matter is the most highly classified subject in the United States Government, rating higher even than the H-bomb,
- b. Flying saucers exist.
- c. Their modus operandi is unknown but concentrated effort is being made by a small group headed by Dr. Vannavar Bush.
- d. The entire matter is considered by the United States authorities to be of tremendous significance.

I was further informed that the United States authorities are investigating along quite a number of lines which might possibly be related to the saucers such as mental phenomena and I gather that they are not doing too well since they indicated that if Canada is doing anything at all in geo-magnetics they would welcome a discussion with suitably accredited Canadians.

While I am not yet in a position to say that we have solved even the first problems in geo-magnetic energy release, I feel that the correlation between our basic theory and the available information on saucers checks too closely to be mere coincidence. It is my honest opinion that we are on the right track and are fairly close to at least some of the answers.

Mr Wright, Defense Research Board liaison officer at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, was extremely anxious for us to get in touch with Dr Solandt, Chairman of the Defense Research Board, to discuss with him future investigation along the lines of geo-magnetic energy release.

I do not feel that we have as yet sufficient data to place before Defense Research Board which would enable a program to be initiated within organization, but I do feel that further research is necessary and I would prefer to see it done within the framework of our own organization with, of course, full cooperation and exchange of information with other interested bodies.

I discussed this matter fully with Dr Solandt, Chairman of Defense Research Board. On November 20th and placed before him as much information as I have been able to gather to date. Dr Solandt agreed that work on geo-magnetic energy should go forward as rapidly as possible and offered full cooperation of his Board in providing laboratory facilities, acquisition of necessary items of equipment, and specialized personnel for incidental work in the project. I indicated to Dr Solandt that we would prefer to keep the project within the Department of Transport for the time being until we have obtained sufficient information to permit a complete assessment of the value of the work.